FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CONTADORA GROUP TO FORM ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

PA090318 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 8 Dec 83 pp A-1, A-14

[Text] Mexico City, (ANSA) -- During the next foreign ministers meeting, to be held in Panama, the four countries of the Contadora Group and the five Central American countries will form an Action Committee to be known as "Contadora Economic."

Many of the Latin American Economic System's [SELA's] 25 members will be establishing regional and extraregional mechanisms, technical and industrial cooperation, and provisions for the supply of goods and services, SELA Permanent Secretary Sebastian Alegrett, a Venezuelan, told a correspondent of the Mexican newspaper UNOMASUNO, who is in Caracas covering the presidential elections won by Jaime Lusinchi.

For his part, Venezuela's president-elect told the same UNOMASUNO correspondent that he will broaden and strengthen relations with the Mexican Government in search for peace in Central America, and that he will also strengthen the entire inter-American system, "in line with the most profound Bolivarian spirit. This should pave the way "for a complementary creative attitude" among all the countries of the continent.

Alegrett pointed out that despite their serious economic problems, Latin American countries are willing to set aside funds so that Central American countries can meet the minimal conditions for development.

Central America is facing the most critical moment of its history, Alegrett said.

He said that the purpose of "Contadora Economic" is to diminish Central American countries' economic vulnerability, to give the Contadora Group countries (Venezuela, Mexico, Colombia, and Panama) strong support for their political efforts, and to reaffirm the group's opposition to military solutions for this underdeveloped area.

Alegrett, SELA's third secretary since its founding in 1975, disclosed that representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations, and the Economic Commission for Latin America, ECLA, have been invited to the meeting in Panama, and that it would be desirable if other countries with financial resources, such as the United States and Canada, participated. The Action Committee will be formed exclusively by Latin American countries.

The solidarity expressed in the area during the Malvinas conflict, according to Alegrett, helped SELA strengthen its political program when the United States, the EEC and other Western powers tried to impose an embargo against the Argentine military regime.

The economic solidarity shown by South American countries, at a time when powerful countries sided with Great Britain against Argentina, was obvious.

While it is true that Latin American countries are facing very difficult moments in their development, these same difficulties seem to bind them more solidly, and this is the trend to follow in Central America, Alegrett said.

REPORTAGE ON ALFONSIN'S PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

Foreign Delegations Arrive

PY090230 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 8 December reports the arrival on 7 December of the Panamanian delegation to the inauguration of President-elect Raul Ricardo Alfonsin. The delegation is headed by Panamanian Vice President Carlos Ozores Typaldo, who said that the Panamanian president "could not travel due to domestic affairs." Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran stated that "we believe that the danger of a North American intervention" in Nicaragua "has been dispelled. There will be no intervention if the instructions of the Contadora Group are observed."

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1930 GMT on 8 December reports the arrivals on 8 December of Indian Foreign Minister Aa Rahim; Brazilian Apostolic Nuncio Carlos Furno, who will represent the pope at the inaugural ceremony; Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, and the delegations of Norway, the United Arab Emirates, Cyprus, and the OAS. Rahim reaffirmed "India's support for Argentina's claim over the Malvinas Islands," while Furno announced that he was bringing "a message from Pope John Paul II for President-elect Raul Alfonsin which advocates peace and fraternity in Argentina." For his part, the Salvadoran foreign minister "denied that the Argentine military regime has provided weapons to his government."

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 1830 GMT on 8 December reports the arrivals on 8 December of Guatemalan President Oscar Mejia Vitores; Norwegian Trade and Commerce Minister Asbjorn Haugstvedt, EEC representative Luigi Boselli; Dominican Foreign Relations Secretary Jose Vega Inbert; and Netherlands Foreign Affairs Secretary Willem Van Eekelen.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 2044 GMT on 8 December reports the arrival today of the Honduran delegation headed by Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica. Regarding the Central American conflict and the frequent border clashes between Honduras and Nicaragua, Paz Barnica said that "Honduras is surrounded by three countries with delicate internal political situations: Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala." He added that "Nicaragua has begun an intensive arms race. This has broken the military balance in Central America, and we feel unprotected. However, Honduras will never participate in a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua, because its foreign policy is based on the principles of the contemporary public law."

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 2015 GMT on 8 December reports that "President Reynaldo Bignone received Brazilian Civilian Household Chief Joao Leitao de Abrue in the civilian sector of Jorge Newberry Metropolitan Airport at 1635 today."

Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 2105 GMT on 8 December reports the arrival today of Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry, who was met by President Reynaldo Bignone and by Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 2315 GMT on 8 December reports that "Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo arrived at Ezeiza Airport at 1955 today." Asked about the difficulties being confronted by his government, Siles Zuazo said that "what is happening in Bolivia is what normally happens in any democratic country when there is an economic situation as difficult as the one we and the Argentine people are confronting."

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 2358 GMT on 8 December reports that "Jose Alberto Zambrano, foreign minister of Venezuela and Simon Alberto Consalvi, personal representative of Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi, arrived in Argentina this afternoon." Zambrano said that the Venezuelan president "might visit Argentina in January." Asked whether Lusinchi's government would make any political changes, Consalvi said that "for the past 25 years, all the Venezuelan democratic governments have maintained basic foreign policy principles, and President Lusinchi will also maintain them." He also said that "no radical changes are to be expected," but that "there could be some modifications in the regional policy in the Caribbean and Central America."

More Foreign Delegations Arrive

PY100219 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish at 2000 GMT on 9 December reports the arrival of various officials to attend Alfonsin's inauguration. Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez arrives. The radio reports that during a meeting with journalists at the airport Carlos Andres Perez emphasized the good relations between his party, Democratic Action, and the Radical Civic Union. In a relay from the airport it further reports the arrival of the French delegation headed by French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy. In an impromptu interview, Prime Minister Mauroy praised the return of democracy in Argentina.

Buenos Aires Domestic Service then reports the arrival of Valerie McComie, OAS assistant secretary general. He expressed confidence in the Contadora Group negotiations to pacify the Central American region. In another relay from the airport, the arrival of Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi is reported. Asked how Italy can help the Argentine democracy, Craxi said that everything possible will be done to help the Argentine democracy and that the new political situation is more favorable for improving relations.

Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1022 GMT on 9 December reports the arrival of Ricardo Lagos, head of the Chilean opposition group Democratic Alliance, who emphasized that the new Argentine democracy will undoubtedly have repercussions in Chile. Asked if he will ask Alfonsin for support in the Chilean struggle for democracy, he said: We believe in the principle of nonintervention.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1414 GMT on 9 Decmeber reports the arrival of Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares who said that he plans to meet with the socialist leaders who are attending the presidential inauguration. He said that this is an historical moment not only for Argentina, but for all of Latin America. He added he will meet with Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, and Costa Rica's President Luis Monge to discuss the conflicting Central American situation. He reiterated that the Socialist International supports the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 1539 GMT on 9 December reports the arrival of Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado who said that Ecuador unconditionally supports the Argentine claims over the Malvinas Islands. He emphasized that Ecuador and Argentina must play an important role in strengthening regional systems.

Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1950 GMT on 9 December reports on the arrival of Fidel Chavez Mena, Salvadoran foreign minister. During a conversation with reporters, Chavez Mena did not deny the possibility of a meeting of Central American leaders. He said he hopes to discuss the 21-point plan to pacify Central America.

Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 0034 GMT on 10 December reports the arrival of Colombian President Belisario Betancur and Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 0050 GMT on 10 December reports the arrival of Spain's president Felipe Gonzalez.

Vice President Bush Arrives

PY100135 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0043 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Dec (NA) -- U.S. Vice President George Bush arrived at Ezeiza Airport minutes after 2130 [0030 GMT]. In his first statement, Bush said that "a sort of bedazzling and overwhelming emotion prevails throughout the world in the face of the restoration of Argentine democracy."

Bush Booed at Congress

PY101050 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1025 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (NA) -- U.S. Vice President George Bush was loudly booed by hundreds of persons when he arrived today at 0720 at the congressional building to attend the inauguration of Raul Alfonsin. Bush, who arrived escorted by approximately 15 cars, remained calm despite the situation and spent a few seconds greeting the people that had gathered around the building. His bodyguards virtually forced him to enter the congressional building when the booing started to increase and some of the vehicles that had escorted him were being surrounded by the crowd.

Bush Booed at Foreign Ministry

PY101730 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1634 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (TELAM) -- U.S. Vice President George Bush was booed by the crowd which had gathered around the San Martin Palace when he arrived there at 1320. Thus, the displeasure over the presence of Washington's envoy was voiced once again, just as it was voiced when Bush arrived at Government House this morning.

Bush Booed at Inauguration

FL101632 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1504 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush was booed by the large crowd in front of the Argentine Parliament Building, where President Raul Alfonsin was sworn in. Of the foreign dignitaries invited to the ceremony at the Argentine Congress, the U.S. vice president was the only one to be rejected by the people congregated in front of the building.

Bush Leaves, Crowd Demonstrates

PY101755 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1710 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (DYN) -- A unanimous and thundering rejection, expressed by shouts of "muderers, murderers," followed U.S. Vice President George Bush when he left San Martin Palace at 1402 today after greeting President Raul Alfonsin. Surrounded by bodyguards, the visitor was practically pushed into his car, although he did manage to lift his right arm to greet the crowd, a gesture which merely prompted an increase of hostility.

Bush's car was followed by other vehicles with the other members of the U.S. delegation. The motorcade was followed by a large station wagon in which five bodyguards wearing bulletproof vests were openly carrying machineguns.

Inauguration Ceremony

PY101113 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1045 on 10 December 1983 reports that Argentine President-elect Raul Ricardo Alfonsin "has departed the Panamericano Hotel, where he has been staying, at 0738 [1038 GMT] to go to the congressional building" where he is to take the oath of office and present his inaugural address.

PY101113 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish at 1045 on 10 December 1983 reports that Argentine President-elect Paul R icardo Alfonsin "has departed the Panamericano Hotel, where he has been staying, at 0738 [1038 GMT] to go to the congressional building" where he is to take the oath of office and present his inaugural address.

Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish at 1100 GMT on 10 December 1983 begins live coverage from the congressional building in Buenos Aires. The announcers describe the crowd and announce the arrival of dignitaries. At just after 0800 [1100 GMT] President-elect Raul Alfonsin arrives. The crowd gathered in front of the congressional building is heard in the background chanting, "Alfonsin, Alfonsin." At 1107 GMT Raul Ricardo Alfonsin takes the oath of office as president of the Republic of Argentina. Immediately following the president, Vice President Victor Martinez takes his oath of office.

At 1111 GMT President Alfonsin begins his inaugural address by discussing the renewal of democracy in Argentina and concludes his speech at 1210 GMT.

Alfonsin's Inaugural Address

PY101330 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1111 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Inaugural speech by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin to congress in Buenos Aires -- live]

[Text] Honorable Congress of the Nation

We have come to explain to this honorable Congress the main objectives of the government in the various spheres in which it will act: national and international policy, defense, economy, labor relations, education, public health, justice, public works, public services, and all other matters that demand the attention of the people, governors, and legislators. I suggest that the report on specific issues that is already in the hands of the legislators be included in the records of this session. But we also want to point out that there will be a deep and fundamental link between all the areas; that a common essence, the justness of our acts, will nourish each and every one of the acts of the democratic government which starts today.

There are many problems that we will not be able to solve immediately, but public corruption ends today. We are going to establish a decent government. [applause] Yesterday there may have been a country, disheartened, in despair, and lacking faith. Today we summon all Argentine citizens, not only in the name of the authenticity of the origin of the democratic government, but also in the name of the ethical principle that upholds that authenticity. That ethical principle represents one of the most noble motivations of the soul. Even the objective of constructing national unity should be fully interpreted through ethics.

That ethical principle that accompanied thousands of Argentine citizens during their struggle for freedom and justice, also mandates that the ends never justify the means. [applause]

Those who believe that the end justifies the means believe that a marvelous future will erase the guilt caused by unethical actions and crimes. To justify the means in order to obtain the ends implies admitting one's own corruption, but it implies above all admitting that one can harm other human beings, that one can subject other human beings to hunger, that one can kill other human beings in the hope that that terrible price some day will allow other generations to live under better conditions.

This way of thinking, used by pragmatic cynics, always foresees a very distant future. But our commitment begins here today, and it is basically a commitment to our contemporaries, whom we have no right to sacrifice for the sake of hypothetical achievements which will be seen in other centuries.

We are going to work for the future; democracy works for the future, but for a tangible future. If one works for a tangible future, one establishes a positive correlation between the ends and the means. One cannot govern without memories, neither can one govern without the capacity to foresee, but to foresee for a comprehensible term and not for an undetermined future. The totalitarians think in terms of millennia, this depriving the current citizenry of the hope of a free life. The problems that we must solve are the present problems; the problems we must provide for are, at most, those which the two future generations might face. As Pope John XXIII said, beyond that time there are no certain conclusions, and the data is too uncertain and fluid; therefore, it might justify research but not political actions.

If we view politics out of an historical context, we prevent human sorrow from affecting politics. Neither current cruelty, nor the current corruption, nor the current apathy can guarantee a happy future. The justification of the means to achieve the ends represents the insane method of the despots and implies forsaking political ethics. [applause]

As a consequence, we will watch our acts to avoid harming our contemporaries for the sake of a distant future. But at the same time, we will strive to conquer a foreseeable future, because to refuse to struggle to improve the living standards of the people and to improve the people themselves, under foreseeable terms, would mean becoming fatalistic. As the current pope said, all stagnation in the political field can occur only because of remorse. As we are all well aware, actions will not bring perfection: Democracy is the only system that acknowledges its imperfections. But we will once again give politics the human touch, which lies in the roots of our thoughts.

We are going to fight for an independent state, and this means that the state cannot be subordinated to foreign powers; it cannot be subordinated to international financial groups; and neither can it be subordinated to the privileged citizenry living within. Private property is an important factor in the development of all peoples. Yet the state cannot be the private property of economically powerful sectors. [applause]

Oligarchic sectors are always inclined to believe that those owners of enterprises or wealth must be the masters of the state. We have seen this again in recent years. There are others who, for their part, believe the state must own all enterprises. We believe the state must be independent: It should be neither the property of the rich, nor the sole owner of the mechanisms of production. [applause]

Two conditions must exist to have an independent state: On the one hand, the people's participation, since where else could a state find the strength to maintain its independence? From the very beginning, democracy will be a driving force. Democracy is always a factor in mobilizing people, while a de facto regime demobilizes them. A de facto regime seeks to demobilize young people. For instance, it seeks to make universities mere teaching centers [ensenaderos]. Democracy seeks to keep the young people rallied behind the general and specific problems.

On the other hand, government officials must also observe high moral standards in their administration. More than an ideology, we will make of this a code of ethics. The fight against corruption, immorality, and decay is designed to guarantee the people's participation. In fact the two conditions go together. It is not possible to fight corruption, which is rooted deep inside the regime, except through the people's participation. Yet this participation cannot be preserved without a policy based on principles, on a code of ethics which would guarantee its continuity. What would be the use of having the people's participation, of voting, if those officials whom they elect will later be corrupted by the powerful few?

Voting has numerous implications. On the one hand, it entails the possibility for the people to rule and for the state to be independent. On the other hand, it establishes a rule in order to acquire legitimacy, because the people cannot act for themselves, and what has been called pure democracy has never actually existed. An election is a means whereby the people elect their rulers and representatives. They cannot elect them through a mutiny. Violence has been ultimately disqualified as a proper way of making changes. [applause]

We come from a movement which did not fight in 1890 to take the government, because that would have entailed endorsing the belief that power ought to be seized at gunpoint, as advocated by guerrilla supporters 10 or 12 years ago. A government could not be formed through an uprising, no matter how popular this may be. It became necessary to struggle to have free elections.

The endorsement of violent methods of seizing power and of exercising it would entail yielding to the viewpoints of those who are more skilled in handling weapons or are simply better armed. This idea has been rejected since 1890, even amid a revolution. The rule of violence was then in force, and those regimes following this rule could only be replaced by others under the rule of votes.

Throughout history we have objected to having a small minority -- which regards itself as the militant sector -- instead of the people, elect a government. This is why we have fought for the right to elect a government, but only for the people's right to do so. This distinction shows that we have always rejected the philosophy of subversion. In addition, it must be taken into account that the Constitution and the laws are also subverted by armed minorities which replace the laws with bullets, either through guerrilla actions or coups. [applause]

This is why we categorically state that we will fight all violent methods advocated by elite sectors, either from the right or the left.

In an increasingly interdependent international situation, elections can help to secure a place in the world for Argentina as a free nation while violent actions, either from the right or the left, can prevent the country from being part of this world or can make it a theater of operations where those participating in it cannot act on their own and, consequently, the state loses its independence, thus running the risk that the government which would emerge from this struggle may no longer be elected by the people, but maintained by an agreement or disagreement of the superpowers at the negotiating table.

Furthermore, pure force lacks the capacity to create legitimacy, and for this reason the dictatorships of the right, despite being supported by some monopolistic capitalist sectors, in the end also become isolated from the world and are inevitably doomed to failure.

The violent methods of the rightist or leftist elites justify themselves with the definitive, final, and absolute victory of one ideology over another, or of one class over another.

Democracy aims at the coexistence of the various social classes and sectors, of various ideologies, and of different life styles. It is pluralistic, which requires the acceptance of a system which leaves a certain leeway to each factor, and thus makes possible the renewal of governments and parties, and the progressive transformation of society.

The ballot is the way that has been chosen to counter the monopolistic possession of the state and of the country by the economic and financial powers, and also to counter the monopolistic possession of the state and of the country by an armed group, whatsoever its excuse for seizing the basic organizations of a community.

Balloting by definition sets a limit to the privileged sectors and trends, as the instrument of the majority sectors, to achieve a better distribution of justice.

Balloting makes possible the peaceful solution of controversies in society and, by providing the state with its only conceivable legitimacy, favors the continuity of the republican institutions and the doctrines on which they are based. Argentine has been in a position to verify that the violation of the rights of the people to elect their rulers has always led to the partial surrender of sovereignty to foreign countries, to unemployment, poverty, corruption, decay, improvision, lack of public liberties, violence, and disorder. Many people do not know what it means to live under the rule of a constitution and law, but everyone now knows what it means to live outside the limits of a constitution and law.

Honorable Congress:

Today the will of the people, through their representatives, is present in this august hall in order to give its testimonial to the beginning, at this moment, of a new stage in the life of our nation. The knowledge that we are the protagonists of this new beginning, which will be definitive, fills all of us with a feeling of responsibility which is in accordance with the effort we jointly initiate today, and it gives us courage to face a number of very serious difficulties which harass our country.

We know very well that those difficulties are numerous and immense, but we will overcome them with the necessary faith and energy, because there is no doubt that we have the resources, the will, and the courage. And, above all, because in this task we are all united. [applause]

When the executive branch has come to speak at this solemn ceremony, it has done so invoking the legitimacy of our constitutional investiture, which is the only unquestionable power with which authority can be endorsed before a people who are free and who have known how to show it; it has done so in order to announce very briefly our immediate program of action and our main goals, established in a clear political platform, which the majority of the country has approved.

The honorable Congress, being the legislative branch of the nation, and truly representing the opinion of the people, now has the high task of giving the country the legal instruments for undertaking the promised reforms to which the Constitution alludes, with visionary historical foresight, in its Article 86, Clause II.

The state in which the constitutional government receives the country is deplorable, even catastrophic in some aspects. The government is receiving a country with a broken and distorted economy, with vast sectors of the population being affected by the harshest poverty, and with social situations which crudely reflect the impact of misery.

It also receives a country with unprecedented debts. These debts, some of which were contracted for unexplicable reasons, will mortgage a major part of the national resources for a long time. The country also has a rampant inflation which will be a real scourge for the people who produce and who work.

The country is also immersed in an atmosphere of authoritarianism, crime, and insecurity resulting from the incredible presumption of the rulers to impose fear and to rule with prepotency.

The country's cultural progress has been delayed, and many of its expressions have been the object of persecutions. Moreover, education and health were pushed aside, and they became the privilege of minority groups. The country's international situation has been aggravated by irresponsible and imprudent decisions that will have future consequences and that we must now try to counteract.

With this distressing load of adversity, which we do not need to particularize here because it is public knowledge, as of today we must not only try to correct and to do away with such things, but we must also lay the foundations for the free, great, prosperous, fraternal, and generous Argentina we all seek. [applause]

And we will naturally do all this together, united with the firm decision, which is shared by all of us, to improve the country. I repeat that this decision must be, and already is, the motivation that will push our progress and development forward. The challenge is great, but our willingness to attain this must be even greater. We can promise today, without fearing failure, that we will never lack this willingness, which is as firm and as constant as the circumstances that surround us.

We will definitively establish in Argentina the democracy cherished by all Argentines, a democracy marked by dynamism, effective participation, and popular mobilization -- all to accomplish the major national objectives within the well defined but historically flexible framework of our Constitution, which guarantees all the rights, liberties, and social and cultural progress of the modern world.

At the same time, the Constitution also guarantees a responsible government administration through the legal and political mechanisms of supervision established in it, and through the periodic renewal of the three branches of the government through elections.

We will live in freedom. Nobody should have doubts about this. [applause] Neither should anyone doubt that this freedom will serve to build, create, produce, work, demand justice -- all the justice provided for in both the ordinary and the social laws -- to defend ideas, to create organizations, to defend the interests and the legal rights of the people in general, and of each sector in particular.

In sum, it will serve us to live better. Because, as we have said many times in our political speeches, the Argentine people have learned, through the tragic experiences that they have lived through in recent years, that democracy is more than merely a legitimate means of access to power, because under a democracy we do not only vote but we also eat, educate, and heal. [applause] This means that the government will resume its traditional role of defending the state of law and the public liberties. It also means that the citizens will resume all their responsibilities. [applause]

Argentina's long tradition of public liberties was obscured by arbitrary and irrational actions carried out in the past few years. This led to fear, to indifference resulting from this fear, to the lack of participation by the Argentine people in the country's problems, to the lack of renewal of authorities, to an asphyxiation of the imagination.

The theory of security was applied to prevent the free, sincere, open, and spontaneous life of our people. The application of this theory implied the payment of an extremely high price for a security which could never be accomplished without the people's participation, regardless of the existing disorder. Thus with the excuse of the need for security, we have been living within a monstrous insecurity, in which the idea that those in power were entitled to privileges prevailed. This led to a virtual lack of central leadership, to a feudalization of power, to an incredible confusion regarding the role that each one of the state organizations had to play.

Security without freedom loses its meaning. The Argentine people did not feel safe because they knew that they could be arrested or could meet an even worse fate without having a chance to defend themselves.

The supreme branches of the state were first divided among themselves, then reorganized, then dissolved and then again reorganized, while the Argentine people were exposed to death or actually died without having participated in any of these decisions. All these were not in keeping with true security, which is based on freedom and responsibility.

Our philosophy is based on different ideas. The security of the state cannot be based on the insecurity of the national community. We will thus assign priority to full respect for human rights, and to the need to dismantle the repressive apparatus...[prolonged cheers and applause] We will thus assign priority to the respect for human rights, and to the need to dismantle the repressive apparatus in order to allow only those appropriate, modern, effective, legal institutions, and related organizations to take care of the complex problems that a modern society faces today. We are not unaware of the seriousness of these problems.

Freedom requires greater understanding by all citizens of the importance of each action influencing the social order. Specific freedoms include social liberties, access to education, equal justice, health care, protection of one's privacy, and of course the right to order, which the democratic government will preserve with the means that the law has placed in its hands.

Our country has experienced tensions, which ultimately resulted in outbursts of violence unleashed by subversive terrorists, and in an indiscriminate repression, which left a number of dead and missing in its wake. The fight among extremist sectors and the terrorism of the state have left deep wounds in Argentine society.

These wounds cannot be healed through revenge or resentment, since acts of this nature would show lack of vision and would be immoral in many cases, because they could endanger the future of the country by pointlessly overemphasizing things of the past. Yet democracy cannot be built on weaknesses, we cannot act as though nothing has happened here. [applause]

We will propose the repeal of the amnesty law dictated by the military government [applause] and we will entrust the courts with the important task of preventing culprits from going unpunished. The courts will also have the necessary tools to prevent those who decided which procedures to follow in the antisubversive struggle, those who followed orders, and those who committed excesses in following these orders from being measured with the same yardstick. [applause]

In addition to the sanctions that the courts might hand out, the democratic government will seek to clear up the status of all missing persons. [applause]

This does not exempt subversive terrorists from their heavy responsibilities. They should have been fought with the means that modern society has put into the hands of the state, and not through means similar to the ones condemned by the entire national community.

We are going to apply good sense, correct methods, and sound principles. They will make us strong and will prove to the world that there is a democracy in Argentina which is not willing to give up its raison d'etre. Assuming that some decide to depart from the legal path, they might have an initial success from the political standpoint. Yet they will not have strength if reason is not on their side. We want reason on our side in order to be strong. [applause]

Citizens will enjoy the tranquillity that they need in a democratic society. In a democracy, one can plan ahead and can build an order which is much more deeply rooted than that based on fear and silence.

Planning a democracy entails preparation and dialogue. We are imbued with ideas and dreams which we want to implement honestly and reasonably. We count on the broad, good disposition of the opposition, which is already showing its generosity and patriotism through its criticism, to help strengthen the democratic plan. This spirit of national unity, which is filling the entire nation with a feeling of elation, will undoubtedly not preclude heated debates and acid confrontations, which will strengthen the republican system that has emerged victorious in the country. [applause]

Dialogue, in order to be effective, will be a true dialogue which will presuppose admitting that we do not monopolize truth, that many times we may make mistakes, and that we will commit human errors. What use would there be in our listening, if we were not willing to correct ourselves? Why would we correct actions, if we did not believe that they are mistaken in some cases?

The country is suffering from arrogance and the common memory of false dialogues which, even with the good faith of many of their participants, did not serve to acknowledge new ideas nor to correct errors. Dialogue is never the sum of various monologues; it presupposes a creative and imaginative attitude on the part of each and every one of its participants.

The national government promotes the carrying out of a horizontal and vertical democratization crusade based on the renewed action of the political parties, of the federations, and of each and every citizen in order to allow all the sectors of Argentine society to join together in a peaceful and creative coexistence.

Democracy is not only established through voting, nor does it only exist within the political parties. Democracy requires that society, as a whole, raise issues in keeping with its commitment to endorse representative, republican system of government.

We are aware of the existence of institutions whose tremendous spiritual influence guides lives of thousands of Argentine citizens. We are also aware of the existence of federations. They will all cooperate in the great national debate as participants of a democratic way of life, without dismissing new channels to express the current reality, but always taking into account that the objectives are established by the nation as a whole, through its representatives, and not through dominant and corporate agreements reached among the sectors, bypassing the legitimate representatives or, even more so as has already happened in this country, by going against the legitimate representatives.

If we are able to orchestrate the calm and balanced conjunction of such manifestations, and to take care of the legitimate preferences of an integrated and lively Argentina, free of neglected sectors, of invisible or secret parties, we will gradually establish a dynamic, effective and healthy state, nourished by a free and creative community.

Our government will never cease to offer gestures of reconciliation which are indispensable from the ethical point of view and unavoidable when looking at the future. It will be impossible to consolidate democracy without an awareness of national unity. Without solidarity, democracy will lose its real essence. This flame should burn in the hearts of every citizen, who should feel inclined to exercise acts of love rather than resentment.

Freedom, as well as order, will prevail in Argentina. Order presupposes rejecting particular acts of violence, not only terrorist violence, but also the type of violence that is perpetrated against the soul of the Argentine citizens seeking to drive them to adopt self-serving and decadent ideas.

The democratic government will also promote the effective enforcement of constitutional federalism. Our Constitution provides for a system of articulated powers subject to a strong executive branch, which is compensated by a likewise strong and independent judicial branch, and by a legislative branch with an active representation of the people and the provinces.

However, federalism was partially replaced, and not only under de facto governments, by an absorbing centralism which many times became irrational even from the point of view of its own interests. [applause]

This centralism initiated controls, ranging from internal migration up to the economic programs of the provinces, and it was also responsible for the real destruction of provincial cultural values, thus constantly contributing to the distortion of national life.

This tendency must be reversed through sincere loyalty to all regions of the nation. The provinces will play once again their historic role as the foundation of the nation, and this will be achieved by depolarizing development to make it reasonably homogeneous in keeping with the needs and characteristics of each area of the nation, always seeking to avoid a situation in which some reap the benefits of progress while others live forgotten by fate. [applause]

This implies instilling a new dignity into the federal pact. The provinces will no longer need to resort to strategies which have frequently meant acceptance of the rule of large port cities. Strong provinces, aware of their achievements, are also indispensable for the attainment of fair standards of living.

The democratic government will comply with the constitutional provision to keep the people informed about what is happening in the country. The compliance with this constitutional provision implies that official lies, useless secrecy, and half truths are finished in Argentina. [applause]

All the inhabitants of this nation will be able to find out what is going on, without information ever to be replaced by the psychological warfare which was waged against the Argentine people, erecting a veritable barrier that made communication between rulers and people impossible and precluded the feedback which gives the man on the street the possibility of judging and expressing opinion while helping the government at the same time.

The news media that are temporarily or permanently in the hands of the state and the official news agency will be handled according to the laws. The means of the state are not the private property of those in power or of any given political party, but of all Argentines. [applause]

Thus, these media will serve to express the full scope of the natural pluralism of any democratic nation. The general confusion between official media, those temporarily intervened by the government, and pro-government media is over.

Using every channel available to it, the government will relay the natural spectrum of opinions of the citizens without any ideological censorship or discrimination.

Our decision to carry out our duties in the proper manner is also based on practical reasons: To begin with, we ourselves need constant feedback in order to have at any given moment a clear idea of the reactions of the various sectors of public opinion; furthermore, the existence of a constitutional and democratic government implies recognizing diversity of opinions. If we refuse to accept or if we conceal this diversity, we would be refusing to accept and concealing our reasons for living and fighting.

The common citizen will see, from one day to the other, the difference between authoritarianism and democracy. I can assure you all that we will be totally honest from the intellectual point of view in our management of the various news media in the hands of the state, and I can assure you that they will be handled in a straightforward manner, not only from the point of view of management but also from the political viewpoint. Thus, never again will anyone have to reject or to undervalue a report because it comes from an official source, and never again will anyone believe that the people's right to be fully informed is being curtailed. ...

Honorable Congress of the nation:

These are the main features of our program and of our commitment as rulers. On the basis of these general ideas, which we can only outline on this occasion, but about which we spoke and wrote in greater detail before 30 October, the specific proposals of legislative action will be drawn up to be submitted for the enlightened consideration and approval of the honorable Congress, in addition to the bills which the congressmen of the nation will surely propose in accordance with the great lines of political, economic, social, and cultural thinking which the people expressed during the recent national elections.

It would be useless to conceal the civic emotions that fills our spirit when we appear here today before the great assembly which embodies the representation of all the Argentine people. Knowing that this emotion is shared and unanimous, we excuse ourselves from expressing it in superfluous words.

This is not the right occasion for rhetoric. This is the time for action, for fruitful, determined, dedicated, and immediate action. It is the time for doing, for doing well, for doing what the republic demands and the people expect.

By the free will of the Argentine people, I have the honor and responsibility of assuming the presidency of the republic. The men and women of my country have honored me by entrusting me with this task in a single hope: that of saving the nation for life, justice, and freedom. [applause]

That hope is our response, the response of the immense majority of Argentines, to a grievous experience. We have experienced with grief the rule of arrogance and arbitrariness in this land where our ancestors wished to build equality and justice. We have experienced the grief of violence and death here, in this Argentina, the land of which all have dreamed and for which all of us desire peace and life. We have experienced, and are still experiencing, the grief of the misery of millions of men and women in a land which could provide prosperity for all, the grief of starvation in a country of food, the grief of lacking a home, health, and education in a nation where such evils cannot be justified in any way.

Today we assume the government of the nation when it is submerged in a crisis that is perhaps the most serious of its history. But the griefs we have experienced have given us lessons which we cannot and should not forget, lessons which will help us to overcome, once and for all, this intolerable situation and to escape from this deepening degradation of a people and a country that do not deserve such a sad fate. Nations, as well as men, mature through suffering, and we would not be worthy of the name of Argentine people unless we could learn from the lesson of grief.

The first thing that we must not forget is that the most valuable asset of this country is the men and women living in it. It is the work and creative capacity of all and each one of our inhabitants that gives meaning and wealth to our Argentina, as to any other nation of the world, not the petroleum, or the cows, or the wheat, or the factories. [applause]

The second lesson is that only the people should concern themselves over the future of the people. When the people are hindered from deciding their own fate, when they are stopped from electing and controlling their government, sooner or later the governing is no longer for the people.

No one can expect a government not to make mistakes. But from now on we will see to it that the people alone, by their free will and within their democratic institutions, will be the only ones to judge and correct those mistakes. [applause]

The grief through which we have lived has taught us that, whenever the road toward democracy is obstructed, the immense majority of Argentines end up losers.

We have also learned that some people reap benefits when the government of the nation is imposed by force and not by the free will of the people. We have learned that those who encourage impatience in order to propose intolerance and violence as remedies have ended up favoring the interests of the privileged class. We have learned that, whenever the people do not decide regarding the government, the nation and the people remain defenseless against domestic and foreign interests.

And we also know that powerful forces do not want a democracy in Argentina. We know that the need for this government, which has been elected by the people, to secure the people's right to elect and to supervise the government in keeping with the Constitution, creates a power struggle in which we cannot and we must not surrender. We will wage this struggle and we will succeed. [applause]

We have one goal: life, justice, and liberty for all those who inhabit this land.

We have one plan: democracy for Argentina.

We have something to fight against: those people who, outside or within the country, want to prevent democracy.

We have one task: to satisfy the needs of all the Argentine people and to overcome the crisis that is confronting us.

We are faced with two challenges: to rule the country amidst a crisis, and to consolidate definitively a system of government that will guarantee the people's right to decide their future.

We can make mistakes because we are human beings. However, from now and forever, we will allow nobody but the Argentine people to judge our errors and to correct them.

We, along with the majority of the Argentines, know that some groups will take advantage of the problems that we will confront, which have been deepened by the crisis, in order to undermine democracy. However, we know that the people have learned a lesson and that they will help us to defend democracy with vigor, force, and the determination needed to secure the people's right to have their own government.

We will materialize the hope to restore a life with justice and freedom because, no matter how hard our situation might be, no obstacles will undermine the strong will of the people to work, together with the government and also individually, in order to build their own future. Other peoples have overcome crises deeper than ours. We are no better than they, but we are no less either. We can also do it, and we will do it by confronting the difficulties and by correcting our errors.

And I have no doubts that we will accomplish our desire for a life of justice and freedom. We will accomplish this, we will set an example, and we will lend a fraternal hand so that other peoples, particularly our Latin American brothers, can also accomplish it. [applause]

Honorable Congress:

We are aware of our limitations and of the ardous effort we must make to live up to our historic responsibility. However, we are also aware that our mandate is clear, categorical, and unavoidable, as is, within the sphere of the legislative branch, the mandate that has been entrusted to the members of this honorable assembly, and as it will duly be the mandate that will be entrusted to the judges with the approval of the honorable Senate in order for them to complete the constitutional structure of the republic with their high mission, which is more silent but no less essential.

We are all human and fallible, but this time we have little room for errors and weakness. We must not fail. We will not fail.

And, if we conclude our term of office having fulfilled the supreme objectives set forth in the preamble to our Constitution, objectives to which we direct our attention many times, raising our voice in a layman's prayer for the great Argentina of the future, then, as we have also voiced on many occasions, we will have nothing to envy of the prominent personalities of our history because this generation, our generation, which is so deeply affected by fights and frustrations, will deserve from its successors the same exalted recognition we feel today for those who founded and organized our republic.

Let us all make our effort in unity and freedom. [applause]

Government House Ceremonies

PY101405 [Editorial Report] Buenos Aires Televisora Color in Spanish at 1330 GMT on 10 December begins live coverage from Government House of the ceremony in which power is to be transfered from the outgoing government of President Reynadlo Bignone to the new administration of President Raul Alfonsin.

President Alfonsin, accompanied by President Bignone, arrives by motorcade from the Congress building. Already present in the ceremonial chamber, the White Hall, or Government House are 300 specially invited guests including former Presidents Arturo Frondizi and Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, defeated Peronist presidential candidate Italo Argentino Luder, governors of the Argentine provinces, and many foreign dignitaries, including U.S. Vice President George Bush, Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, and presidents and special representatives of South American nations.

In the transfer of power ceremony, which begins at 1345 GMT, a government secretary reads a special decree recognizing the transfer of power, after which President Bignone places upon President Alfonsin the presidential sash and hands him the presidential baton. Both Alfonsin and Bignone then sign the decree, as Dr. Victor Martinez, the newly-elected vice president, looks on.

Immediately following the transfer ceremony, President Alfonsin and President Bignone depart so that President Alfonsin can escort his predecessor to the principle doorway of Government House so Bignone can depart. The dignitaries wait in the White Hall for President Alfonsin to return to administer the oath of office to his cabinet and ministers.

The ceremony begins with the reading of the appropriate decrees of appointments by government notary Eduardo Jose Carranza. President Alfonsin then administers the oath of office to Interior Minister Antonio Americo Troccoli first, and then individually to each minister and secretary of his cabinet.

The ceremony ends at 1534 GMT as President Alfonsin leaves Government House for the Cabildo from where he will address the people of Argentina.

Alfonsin Plaza de Mayo Speech

PY101810 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1554 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Speech by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin from the central balcony of the historic Buenos Aires Cabildo building to the people gathered in Plaza de Mayo -- live]

[Text] Fellow countrymen. [applause, cheers] We begin today... [applause, cheers] We begin today... [applause, cheers] Fellow countrymen, we begin together today a new stage in Argentina.

We are beginning a stage which will undoubtedly be difficult because we all share the enormous responsibility of securing, today and for the future, democracy and respect for the dignity of the people who live in Argentina. [applause, cheers]

We know... [applause, cheers, chants] We know that the situation is hard and difficult, but we have no doubt that the Argentine people will overcome the problems and that we will build up the country we deserve. [applause, cheers, chants]

And we will not do this by dint of enlightened rulers, but based on what all of you are chanting since a united people will never be defeated. [applause, cheers, chants]

It is a happy coincidence that today, when the Argentine people begin this stage of 100 years [as heard] of freedom, peace and democracy, is the day of human rights. [applause, cheers]

Therefore, we promise once again to work firmly and resolutely for man's dignity. We know that man not only needs freedom, but also justice, because to defend the human rights we must not only preserve life but also fight against the misery and poverty existing in our country. This is something we are totally determined to fight against [applause, cheers]

This is only a greeting. This feast of Argentina's democracy would not have been complete for me if I had not had an opportunity to be with you again and to reassert to you once more that I am your servant, the most humble servant of the Argentine people. [applause, cheers, chants]

It would not have been a complete feast, either, if I had not had another chance to reassert my promise to work together with you so that we together can all accomplish the objectives set by our forefathers, which we have voiced all over the country. We know that we now have the possibility of accomplishing these objectives. [applause, cheers]

We will all work for national unity, consolidate domestic peace, strengthen justice, provide for national defense, promote the well-being of the people in general, and secure the benefits of freedom for ourselves, our posterity, and for all the men of good will who want to live in our territory. [applause, cheers, chants]

FOREIGN MINISTER CAPUTO ON RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PA111500 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] In today's Radio Havana interview section, we have a statement made by new Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo:

[Begin recording] You know that we must mend our relations with the United States somewhat. They must be mature relations, characterized by neither hegemony nor dependence.

We share the ideals of liberty and democracy with the U.S. people. Indeed, these ideals are shared by the North Americans, the Germans, the Uruguayans and the Argentines. It is on the basis of these ideals that we will meet with all great countries.

We have repeatedly made reference to the principle of nonintervention in other states' domestic affairs. This is an essential aspect of our foreign policy.

Were the United States, given its importance, to intervene in the domestic affairs of another nation, our position would be firm. We will not accept any U.S. attempt to interfere in the affairs of Latin America. Our intention is, indeed, to mend our relations, but only within the framework that I just stated: They must be mature relations, with an ethical content and without dependence.

Our people have voted for democracy. They wish to build their own future, and Argentina's foreign policy is the product of this desire. Our country's fundamental policy is that the Argentines are sovereign in their country, in their territory.

We have now achieved domestic democracy, which, as I have told you, means that we now have a much better chance of being the masters of our own destiny, and this must be reflected in our foreign policy. Thus, mature relations are necessary, so that no one may tell us what we must do in our own country. [end recording]

ORTEGA'S ACTIVITIES, PRO-NICARAGUA RALLY NOTED

PA101436 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Nicaragua is clearly willing to engage in dialogue with either President Ronald Reagan or Vice President Bush, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction said yesterday in Buenos Aires. In a few hours, Ortega Saavedra will participate in President Raul Alfonsin's inauguration. The Sandinist leader met last night with Guatemalan Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores in yet another effort to achieve peace in Central America.

At 1900 Argentine time, 1600 Nicaraguan time, thousands of demonstrators carrying flags and placards gathered in front of the Liberatador Hotel, where the Nicaraguan delegation is staying, to hold a demonstration in support of the Sandinist revolution. Here is a special report from Buenos Aires by Luis Hernandez:

[Begin recording] This is Luis Hernandez from Buenos Aires for Radio Sandino. Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra met last night with Guatemalan Head of State Mejia Victores in a new effort to find peace in Central America. Commander Ortega said that the Nicaraguan Government seeks permanent dialogue among the Central Americans in order to reduce tension in the region. The Sandinist leader arrived in Argentina at 1730 Buenos Aires time, and was then taken to the Libertador Hotel, where the Nicaraguan delegation is staying. Commander Ortega participated in a huge demonstration of solidarity there, addressing a huge rally held in solidarity and attended by more than 20,000 people who gathered in front of the hotel.

Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega will stay in Argentina for several days to hold various meetings with Latin American personalities who are here. He said that he might meet with leaders who are here for Alfonsin's inauguration, to discuss Central America's problems. Commander Ortega has said that dialogue will be maintained, and that if Bush wants to participate in dialogue to promote peace in Central America, he can do so during his visit to Buenos Aires. [end recording]

OFFICIALS ON POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING NUCLEAR BOMB

PY112153 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Dec 83 p 6

[Text] Pirassununga, Sao Paulo -- Yesterday Waldir de Vasconcelos, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, said that Brazil will research the entire potential of nuclear technology, but that the production of an atomic bomb in the country was subject to a political decision. He did not say whether that decision has been taken. During an interview granted at the Pirassununga Air Force Academy, where he attended a ceremony together with President Joao Figueiredo and other military ministers, Waldir de Vasconcelos stated that "in our capacity as a sovereign and free country, we cannot stop research into nuclear technology. Any country that wants to progress must carry out that research, and whoever manages to master nuclear technology can even manufacture a bomb. He said that he had not read the article published by O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO saying that Brazil is already studying the possibility of producing a bomb by 1990. He said that "for the time being, we are conducting research, but it is for whomever has mastered nuclear technology to produce a bomb."

Waldir also said that Brazil is not concerned over the possibility of Argentina, a neighboring country, manufacturing a nuclear bomb. Vasconcelos said that "Above all, we are freinds of the Argentines and, as far as I know, their technology is directed at using nuclear energy for peaceful purposes."

Rubem Ludwig, chief of the Military Household, Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos, and Navy Minister Maximiano de Fonseca, who were also in Pirassununga with President Figueiredo, also talked to journalists about the possiblity of Brazil making an atomic bomb. However, all of them asserted that they did not know whether a decision in that regard had already been taken. Ruben Ludwig said that "Brazil is conducting research, but there is a difference in research and applying knowledge to industry. I cannot say whether we will be able to manufacture an atomic bomb in 1990." Despite the fact that he said that he knew nothing about "that story of the bomb," Delio Jardim de Mattos asserted that scientific technology develops at a similar pace throughout the world, and that Brazil, as well as other countries, is working to develop nuclear technology. Maximiano da Fonseca agreed with Jardim de Mattos' statements.

Paper: Bomb Being Built

PY110137 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Dec 83 p 1

[By Roberto Godoy]

[Text] Brazil is working on an atomic bomb and will be able to have total technological independence in 7 years. The Brazilian main strategic atomic bomb will reportedly be a 20 to 30 kiloton bomb (two to three times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima) made of plutonium. The final bomb project will be brought out of a secret place, the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Aerospace Technology Center (CTA) in Sao Jose dos Campos. The experts who are working on the project say that by 1990 the energy question will be resolved; therefore, the country can have a "reasonable atomic power" by 2005 and the first operational devices in 1998. A missile 16 meters in height capable of reaching 3,000 km and carrying a warhead of over 1 ton will be designed for launching the bomb.

SCHWEITZER ON END OF ARMS EMBARGO TO ARGENTINA

PY100052 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 9 Dec 83

[By Carolina Munoz]

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer has said that in its capacity as arms supplier, it will be the United States that will be more deeply affected by the decision to lift the embargo on arms sales to Argentina and not to Chile. Schweitzer noted that the [human rights] certification is not the cornerstone of U.S.-Chilean relations.

[Begin Schweitzer recording] (?Second, this decision) is a U.S. internal affair dealing with a U.S. law whereby the U.S. Administration must provide the corresponding certificate for resuming arms sales to some countries. Now, as far as Chile is concerned, [words indistinct] and as I have put it -- and I think I said this more than once -- it will be the United States, in its capacity as arms supplier, which will be more deeply affected by this decision, because Chile can remain neither defenseless nor inactive from the standpoint of its military equipment. [end recording]

Asked about the power imbalance in the Southern Cone, Schweitzer said: I believe each country will have to take the necessary measures. This might be more expensive, but I hope no power imbalance will develop.

Schweitzer was also asked whether the United States has accurately assessed the Chilean reality. [Begin recording] [Schweitzer] I believe that the U.S. Administration has the necessary information to make a fair evaluation. It would be enough to recall the speech that Ambassador Kirkpatrick delivered yesterday and what she said to justify her vote.

[Question[(?How did Ambassador Kirkpatrick evaluate the situation in Chile?)

[Schweitzer] Well, her evaluation was impartial. During a 1-hour speech, she submitted a detailed summary of the situation in Chile based on the information that she has received on our country. She even compared our situation with that prevailing [words indistinct] in Cuba. And although it may seem absurd, Cuba was one of the sponsors of the resolution against Chile. [end recording]

The Chilean foreign minister concluded by saying that President Reagan sent a letter to President Pinochet following normal procedures in which President Reagan politely informed President Pinochet of the measures that his government would take so that President Pinochet would not find them out through the press, Schweitzer said.

ROK FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR ARGENTINA

PY091322 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] ROK Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong has ended his 2-day visit to Chile. The ROK visitor, who left for Buenos Aires where he will represent his government at the presidential inauguration ceremony, was seen off by Chilean Foreign Minister Miguel Schweitzer and other high ranking officials.

BETANCUR LEAVES FOR ARGENTINA TO ATTEND INAUGURATION

PA091353 Paris AFP in Spanish 1316 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota, 9 Dec (AFP) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur Cuartas left Bogota for Buenos Aires at 1255 GMT today. He was accompanied by former Presidents Misael Pastrana Borrero and Alfonso Lopez Michelsen. They will attend the inauguration of Raul Alfonsin. Betancur Cuartas noted: "I am departing with much enthusiasm to greet Argentina's return to democracy."

FOREIGN MINISTER ON AMAZON MEETING, ARGENTINA

PA091955 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Bogota -- Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has stressed the importance of President Belisario Betancur's trip to Buenos Aires today to attend Raul Alfonsin's inauguration. He said that in the immediate future Colombia and Argentina will have to act jointly in many areas of foreign policy. [Begin recording] [Lloreda Caicedo] The process that is being carried out in Central America requires not only the good will of the five Central American and the Contadora Group countries that are promoting a dialogue, but also the help and cooperation of the large powers, especially the countries that have political interests in the region. We have seen some recent developments with some satisfaction, for example, the elimination or departure of several hundred Cuban military advisers from Nicaragua and the withdrawal of U.S. ships that had been patrolling the area. These are slight indications that we can advance within the objectives and the goals that the Contadora Group has outlined.

[Unidentified reporter] What objectives were achieved in the meeting of foreign ministers of the Amazon pact?

[Lloreda Caicedo] It was a meeting of eight countries. It was the second held since the group was established and the treaty was approved. The objective is to develop all the Amazon basin within some guidelines. One-fourth of Colombian territory falls in that basin. This is a very underdeveloped area. It has not been duly exploited and it is a very fragile zone from the ecological viewpoint. We must give it very special treatment, because a destruction of unforeseeable consequences can take place if we do not do things right from the beginning. The Amazon countries periodically meet to exchange experiences. Colombia was the site of the meeting on this occasion. The next meeting of the council will be in Bolivia, while the next meeting of foreign ministers will be in Ecuador. We decided to create a permanent body that will temporarily work in La Paz so that all the countries will participate during the time between the meetings. We also worked on [words indistinct] and technical projects that will be carried out in the next few months. I think it was a positive meeting. It is an essential and very beneficial initiative. When he opened the Amazon meeting, President Betancur said that it was a great adventure into the future. I think he is right. It is the frontier that has yet to be discovered. It is the most important territory, the heart, of the South American continent.

[Unidentified reporter] Will President Betancur be making any proposal to President Alfonsin?

[Lloreda Caicedo] They will probably hold a meeting on Sunday morning. I am sure that the meeting will bring about very beneficial results, strengthening the ties between Argentina and Colombia in the political, economic, and cultural areas. [end recording]

HURTADO LEAVES FOR ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PA091355 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Today Ecuadoran President Dr Osvaldo Hurtado traveled to Argentina to attend the inauguration that will take place tomorrow at 1030 at the presidential palace.

The president, who has been officially invited by Argentine President-elect Raul Alfonsin, was accompanied by the National Congress president, the Supreme Court of Justice president, the foreign minister, and the national secretary of public information, among others.

This morning at 0700, after the usual honors were granted him, President Hurtado and his retinue boarded a Boeing 747 of the Ecuadoran airline for Guayaquil. From here, they will leave at 0900 directly for Buenos Aires.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA QUITO PRESS CONFERENCE

PA091550 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 2109 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Press conference given by Nicaragua's Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, at the Pichincha Room of the Colon Internationsl Hotel in Quito; broadcast simultaneously by Managua Domestic Service; questioners not identified -- live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] How should we interpret the [words indistinct] that you are making? Does this imply that a U.S. invasion of your country is (?imminent) and that you are seeking political support in Latin America to prevent an invasion?

[Ortega] We have to mention that Nicaragua is a country still being directly threatened by U.S. military power. This threat was confirmed a few days ago by President Reagan himself. It is being specifically expressed in this region through the military presence of the United States, (?which seeks a military) victory in Nicaragua. Since the victory of the Sandinist revolution -- and even prior to that -- we have received solidarity and support from Latin America, from all the Latin American peoples and governments, in support of the Nicaraguan people's struggle. We believe that it is necessary to strengthen and to develop this Latin American solidarity, especially during the extremely difficult moments we are presently experiencing in the Central American region.

An act of aggression against Latin America, such as the one which recently took place in Grenada, is something that compels the Latin American peoples and governments to voice their protest. When a policy is established, such as the United States has done after its aggression and intervention in Greneda, we logically expect that the Latin American peoples and governments will adopt measures to counter this policy. We must oppose this policy and avoid a repetition of events similar to those which took place in Grenada. Logically, the situation in Nicaragua would be different than the one in Grenada.

[Reporter] Within the framework of PRENSA OBRERA's total and unconditional solidarity with the Sandinist revolution, I would like to ask you three questions, Commander Daniel Ortega. First, what is the role of the Communist Party in Nicaragua with regard to the Sandinist revolution, and does the revolution receive any aid from the Soviet Union, in contrast to the national liberation movements that exist in Iran and Libya, and the Palestinian liberation movement?

The second question refers to the Sandinist revolution's measures to counter the imperialist attacks on Managua and Corinto, through the contras. How has the Nicaraguan revolution responded? Have you requested the complete solidarity of the working classes in Latin America and in the world to counter U.S. imperialism, to expel the IMF, or to pay your external debt? Have you adopted similar measures? The third question is whether the FSLN will negotiate the matter of the elections with counterrevolutionaries like Rivera, Robelo, and Commander Cero, who are being financed and directed by the CIA.

[Ortega] There is political pluralism in Nicaragua. This is one of the achievements of the Sandinist people's revolution. There is a certain number of political parties, including the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. They have had the opportunity to struggle for the political pluralism that was achieved by the Sandinist people's revolution.

We must also point out that the situation prevailing in Central America demands international solidarity. Logically, the people play a significant role, but governments also have a significant part. We believe that a Latin American spirit exists, and it was evident during the Nicaraguan people's struggle; it was reaffairmed during the aggression against Latin America in the Malvinas; and it has been emphasized again in view of the intervention in Grenada and the threats of an intervention in Central America. We believe that this is the reality in our America, and that we must try to strengthen this reality. There are many areas in which our peoples, political parties, movements for liberation, and governments coincide. It is necessary to strengthen these areas because we believe this is the way to truly help the Latin American peoples, particularly the Central American peoples.

As to the measures adopted by the revolution [words indistinct] we must point out that the electoral topic was not brought up at the last minute. It was included in the FSLN's government program presented in 1977 -- during a revolutionary offensive in October. In August 1980, the FSLN reiterated its willingness to hold elections in our country in 1985. It also stated that the electoral period would begin in January 1984. Consequently, we have announced the start of the electoral period. We do not believe that democracy begins or ends with elections, although elections are a fundamental element of democracy.

Therefore, the other measures which complement this decree regarding elections seek to allow all Nicaraguans the possibility of participating -- including those who have picked up weapons [word indistinct] who have not accepted money from the CIA or the U.S. State Department to attack Nicaragua. These measures are intended to strengthen the democratization process in Nicaragua.

Who is going to benefit and who is not depends on the organization charged with studying the requests. Those who, according to the stipulations, can submit their requests for study and are in no way affected by the exclusions should have no problem taking advantage of it.

[Reporter] I represent a sector of the Brazilian news media that stands for tradition, family, and property. Commander Ortega, on behalf of democracy, I would like to ask you two questions. First, is the Nicaraguan regime planning to strengthen its campaign against capitalism in Central America, and if so, what ideological principles will it utilize to promote social revolution in Central America?

Second, it is evident that the members of the traditional form of society are not entirely in favor of replacing the capitalist system in Nicaragua and Central America. Could you tell us if the change of regime brought more freedom and prosperity to Nicaragua? Do you have the statistics, other than those provided by the Nicaraguan authorities, to prove it? If you do, could you sumit them?

[Ortega] It would be advisable for journalists to ask just one question so that all journalists can ask questions. In any case, we are going to answer both your questions. The first question was...[someone repeats the question] Regarding this, I must state that this is an (?accusation) that the United States has been making against us. The United States does not really understand that the changes in Central America are due to the economic injustice experienced by our peoples.

In this case, a real revolution has taken place in Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan revolution has not been made to be exported or to carry out expansion. Revolutions for the sake of principle cannot be exported. Revolutions are born where conditions for them exist. Where there are no conditions, revolutions cannot take place. Revolutions cannot be artificially or forcedly developed. [Words indistinct] the unjust situation experienced by the Central American peoples is centuries old [words indistinct] the United States has supported repressive regimes and unjust situations in Central America. As a result, it is reaping liberation struggles in Central America. That bad policy naturally includes an attitude of backing repressive regimes and of putting the peoples against each other. Therefore, the United States is reaping the fruits of its bad policy in Central America.

There are statistics recognized by such international organizations as UNESCO. They deal with the success achieved in the democratic [word indistinct]. This is the success we achieved a few months after the revolution with the national literacy campaign. We reduced an illiteracy rate of more than 50 percent to 10.7 percent.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] Did Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado express a specific position on the problems which I suppose you brought up in today's meeting?

[Ortega] President Hurtado and I recently held talks at the United Nations. On this occasion we continued the talks we held then. We can point out that we found great understanding from President Hurtado regarding regional problems. This understanding has been shown with his initiative on the economic problems which equally affect all Latin American peoples. We have supported and will continue to support his initiative. As for the (?historic) military problems that affect the Central American region, we found great receptivity from President Hurtado with regard to increasing efforts to find political solutions to the problems, to get the United States to understand that a political solution must be found to those problems -- that it is not through force or war that they should be solved -- and to reject and oppose any kind of interventionist action in Central America.

[Reporter] In a press statement issued today by the White House, the U.S. Administration said that Stone is willing to visit all the countries (?involved) in the Contadora Group's efforts. A spokesman hinted that Nicaragua would be included in the visits. Would Nicaragua be willing to receive Stone?

[Ortega] We have spoken with him several times in Managua. We have also spoken with Motley and with Kissinger, who visited Managua. Our doors are open to delegates of the U.S. Government. Nicaragua does not deny a visa to anyone. The Nicaraguan revolution is not afraid of U.S. tourists or officials. We are willing to hold a dialogue with the United States.

[Reporter] What is the current economic situation in Nicaragua after the important attacks [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] I would have to tell you that the policy of aggression that the United States has launched against Nicaragua -- a policy that can only be described as terrorist -- has caused the deaths of more than (?800) Nicaraguans so far this year. Hundreds have been kidnapped and wounded. The losses to the economy amount to more than (?110) million. We are talking of the destruction of schools, health centers, machinery, roads that are used by the peasants to bring out their products, and agricultural cooperatives that the revolution has been developing for the peasants. There is a policy of terror aimed at affecting the economy anywhere and in any way. However, we must also point out that despite these very serious effects on such a weak economy as ours, the people's efforts [words indistinct] and they enable us to undertake a number of tasks that we have in the productive field and sectors that are of great importance to us for export.

[Reporter] What specific results have the Contadora Group's efforts had on the search for peace in Central America? What implications will the U.S. refusal to hold a dialogue [words indistinct] denial of the visa to the interior minister have or has it had?

[Ortega] [Words indistinct] Contadora Group's efforts are Latin American efforts. They have been valuable efforts. They have achieved some substantial advances. The signing of the 21-point document by all the Central American governments is considered a substantial advance. Efforts are now being made to implement those 21 points. This is also a very valuable effort. This is the counterpart of the U.S. policy of a military solution to the region's problems. There are security problems in the Central American reigon. There are problems that have to do with the security of the Central American states and above all with the effects of extraregional states such as the United States. We can state that the Contadora Group (?has done) much in this regard. The United States maintains a contradictory policy. On the one hand, it says that it supports the Contadora Group and on the other it rejects the Contadora process in practice with a bigger military presence and (?actions) in the reigon. The United States recently approved $24 million for covert actions against Nicaragua; in other words, to continue to kill the Nicaraguan people, to send terrorists to Nicaragua.

It has encouraged the possibility of holding a dialogue with Nicaragua [words indistinct] it does not open the possibility of [words indistinct] support for the Contadora Group. The technical commission of Contadora Group recently met in Panama, and Stone arrived there. Instead of going to support the Contadora Group, he arrived to harm the process. He met with the counterrevolutionary groups that they have created to attack Nicaragua, and he did not carry any action to contributed to the Contadora Group.

The refusal to grant visas so that Nicaraguan leaders, the Nicaraguan people, can get in touch with U.S. public opinion and U.S. representatives reflects an undemocratic attitude and is an undemocratic example on the part of the U.S. Government. They recently denied visas to Commander Tomas Borge and to Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council. They also denied visas to companera leaders of the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women, Supreme Court members, and State Council members. The list of leaders and members of the Nicaraguan Government who have been denied visas by the United States is long. Therefore, we have so far not found a consistent U.S. policy in support of the Contadora Group's efforts.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We insist that the speed at which peace efforts in Central America are moving does not correspond to the speed of military actions and the U.S. military presence in the region. Military actions are moving faster than peace efforts, and U.S. military power is to blame. [Passage indistinct] We also said that the United States is the great destabilizer in the Central American region, but it could become the great stabilizer.

[Reporter] What path will the Nicaraguan revolution take?

[Ortega] We are confident that an electoral process in our country will help reaffirm the democratic, popular, and anti-imperialist character of our revolutionary (?process).

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] The only place where they have a liberated zone is Honduras, in Honduran territory. [laughter and applause] This is true. The Honduran Government is getting itself into trouble, and who knows how they will get out of it. They are violating their sovereignty not only with the presence of U.S. troops, but also with the presence of armed Somozist mercenaries who walk around freely in Honduran territory. Those reports are invention by those people to [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] possible invasion in Nicaragua.

[Ortega] Well, we are prepared to face direct U.S. intervention. We are even prepared for quick action by the United States. They talk about launching their famous lightning attacks [words indistinct]. Of course, we do not underestimate the U.S. military capacity. We know it is a military power, but we also know it is a military power that can be defeated. It would surely be defeated in Nicaragua. It would not be defeated in the short term, of course. Our plans for direct confrontation with the United States include a war of resistance. [Words indistinct] will represent a defeat for the United States, because this U.S. policy can be defeated in the long term. We are sure of this.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] No. We don't establish any kind of [word indistinct] in the country. These groups were artificially fabricated by the United States, and the revolution does not have any policy in that regard. The United States has always tried to establish a comparison between the Nicaraguan and the Salvadoran situation. In El Salvador, there is a genuine rebel force. In Nicaragua, the force is artificial. [Words indistinct] In El Salvador there is a national force that was developed there and that operates there, but [words indistinct]. The two situations are completely different.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] International relations. It has been said that there is Cuban cooperation. However, in Nicaragua we also have cooperation from Latin America, from U.S. [words indistinct], European [words indistinct]. This should be no source of concern to anyone. If someone wants to compete with Cuba in cooperation, then we let them compete. That's only fair. [applause]

The problem of Central America is the foreign military advisers. Nicaragua is in favor of all foreign military advisers leaving the Central American region. But this decision must be adopted by all, and not unilaterally by Nicaraguan.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] The United States, logically, has tried to encourage internal confrontations to weaken Nicaraguan policy, a dignified policy that relies on all sectors. Of course, it relies on all sectors in order to benefit fundamental sectors that had been left out of the wealth-distribution process in our country, to benefit the workers, the peasants. This policy creates, independently from any U.S. action, a resistance among sectors that don't easily accept this change, because this requires a change of attitude in themselves, and this isn't easy. And then there is the United States with its confrontation policy which has made possible an armed activity, and some Nicaraguans and leaders are playing the U.S. game aimed at attacking the revolution. But we can say that these are minority forces. Right now, the United States' main force to launch an aggression against our country is the Somozist guards.

[Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Miskito actions have been a fruit of U.S. policy. The revolution has ordered an amnesty and has released those Miskitos who were under arrest. [Words indistinct] and in Nicaragua's north Atlantic region, the Miskitos are being helped with economic and social programs that should counterbalance the U.S. options there, one of arms and counterrevolution.

Communique on Ortega Visit

PA092305 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1725 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Telephone interview with PRENSA LATINA journalist Omar Sepulveda by an unidentified reporter regarding Commander Daniel Ortega's visit to Quito, Ecuador, on 9 December 1983 -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Sepulveda] Good morning Luis, good morning Nicaraguan friends. Commander Daniel Ortega and the high-level delegation accompanying him on this brief but very fruitful visit to Ecuador departed for Buenos Aires this morning at approximately 0530.

[Reporter] Omar, has a communique been issued by the Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry?

[Sepulveda] Yes, as a matter of fact we have just received via our telex a press communique issued by the Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate regarding Commander Ortega's visit. One of the most interesting paragraphs regarding Commander Ortega's meeting with President Hurtado yesterday reads: Commander Daniel Ortega informed the Ecuadoran president of the Nicaraguan Government's interest in getting all foreign advisers out of the region and preventing the shipment of arms to other nations in the area. Ortega also mentioned the measures adopted by the government to restore democracy in his country, which include granting amnesty and opening the electoral process.

The communique adds: For his part, President Osvaldo Hurtado expressed his satisfaction over the Nicaraguan Government initiatives aimed at strengthening peace efforts in the area.

In addition, during their meeting, the two dignitaries expressed their concern over the Central American situation which, they noted, is the result of persistent socio-economic differences in the region.

The communique also expresses support for the Contadora Group actions to achieve peace in Central America.

Havana Cites Ortega's Comments

FL091600 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, warned on his arrival in Ecuador that if the United States invades his country, it will be militarily defeated in the medium or long run by a people's war of resistance.

Ortega, who is heading a high-level delegation, which is visiting Ecuador and will depart for Buenos Aires, Argentina, today said that the United States is the major disturbing element in Central America, although it could be the major stabilizing element if it wanted to.

The leader met with Ecuadoran President Osvaldo Hurtado and said that Hurtado was very receptive to the search for a political solution to Latin American problems and to the need for making the United States understand that conflicts should be solved in a political manner.

The Nicaraguan commander reiterated the Junta of National Reconstruction's decision to hold elections in 1985, but he pointed out that their purpose is not to return to the past, but rather to reaffirm what has already been won.

ORTEGA STOPS IN LIMA EN ROUTE TO ARGENTINA

PA091655 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1643 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Lima, 9 December (DPA) -- Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, stopped in Lima today on his way to Buenos Aires to attend Raul Alfonsin's inauguration.

Ortega noted that in the Argentine capital he will hold meetings with personalities who will attend the event, in order to explain the Sandinist government's position.

He also said that the Cuban teachers are concluding their mission in Nicaragua and that peace in Central America depends to a great extent on the United States.

POLICE KILL 60 TERRORISTS IN AYACUCHO ATTACKS

PY092222 Paris AFP in Spanish 1530 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Lima, 9 Dec (AFP) -- Police sources from Ayacucho have reported that 60 guerrillas of the Peruvian Shining Path extremist group died in two clashes with police forces in Ayacucho on 6 December. Two policemen and four soldiers were also injured.

In a communique released yesterday, the political-military command of the emergency zone reported that in two clashes that took place in the towns of Satica, in the Ayacucho Province of Cangallo, and in Acobama, Huancavelica, two policemen and four soldiers were wounded, and that an unspecified number of terrorists were killed. The official communique also noted reliable police reports indicating that 35 terrorists, including 7 women, were killed in Satica, and that 2 policemen were wounded. The reports add that 25 terrorists including women were killed in Acobama, and that 4 soldiers were injured. Moreover, some 60 armed terrorists raided the San Genaro mining center, in Castrovirreyna, Huancavelica, where they seized a large amount of explosives, some merchandise, and food, and then fled.

DEPUTY ON DEATHS IN AYACUCHO; PRISON REBELLIONS

PA111810 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Peruvian Deputy Javier Diez Canseco has charged that some 2,000 people have been killed in Ayacucho Department since February 1982. The United Left coalition deputy added that communiques released by the political-military command of the Ayacucho emergency zone also indicate that from January to June 1983, 1,047 alleged members of the armed organization Shining Path were killed in clashes. Diez Canseco proposed that an investigative commission be created to hear the statements of peasants who live in the areas controlled by the Army. The Peruvian deputy was speaking at a roundtable in Lima on missing people in Peru.

Other reports indicate that the prisoners in the Peruvian prison island of Fronton have taken the warden and a prison employee as hostages, and are demanding the repeal of a number of restrictive measures imposed on visitors. The same demand was made by the female prisoners of the Callao prison, who held prison employees hostage for 6 hours.

SEPULVEDA WANTS CLOSER RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA

FL092056 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0155 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 8 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Secretary of Foreign Relations Bernardo Sepulveda today expressed the desire of the Mexican Government to have even closer relations with Argentina, which will soon have a new president, Dr Raul Alfonsin. Shortly before leaving for Buenos Aires with Senate leader Miguel Gonzales Avelar to attend the inauguration of the new Argentine president as the representatives of President Miguel de la Madrid, the Mexican foreign secretary said that his visit is satisfying because Argentina is embarking on a new way of government.

He also indicated his fervent hope that this rapprochement between the two countries results in tangible economic, political, and cultural relations. He added that in light of the recessive stage Latin America is going through, this is an opportunity to seek commercial complementarity and to broaden the policy of tightening links within the Andean Pact. He said: We believe that there are possibilities in the commercial sector for cooperation between Mexico and Argentina, not only under the protection of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), but also on a bilateral basis.

DEFENSE SECRETARY ON RESULTS OF 1983 MANEUVERS

PA102016 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 7 Dec 83 p 3

[Excerpt] National Defense Secretary Juan Arevalo Gardoqui told President Miguel de la Madrid at the conclusion of military maneuvers in 1983 that their tactical, logistical, and administrative objectives were achieved.

The Army and Air Force maneuvers included routine internal security operations and nonroutine activities of a social nature. The military officer said that the maneuvers lasted 15 days and took place in various parts of the country. "The capability, discipline, and organization of Army and Air Force personnel were demonstrated through these activities." He said that the ability they have acquired to assist the civilian population in case of disaster was demonstrated through the operation of mobile surgical hospitals at which nearly 13,000 people were treated, medical consultations of various sorts were conducted, approximately 619 cures were effected, 2,300 cases of minor dental surgery and prophylaxis were performed and 1,597 medical surveys, 2 deliveries, and 69 health discussions were carried out.

Arevalo Gardoqui said that special attention was also paid to the campaign against drug traffickings and production during the maneuvers. Thus, the Canador operation resulted in the destruction of poppy plantations totalling 487.61 hectares, with a potential yield of 4,876 kg of poppy gum, and of marijuana plantations totalling 202 hectares, from which 121 tons of marijuana could have been obtained; and in the arrest of 163 drug trafficking suspects, from whom 5 tons of marijuana, 254 grams of poppy gum, and 66 kg of poppy and marijuana seed were seized.

VICE PRESIDENT BUSH ARRIVES 11 DECEMBER

PA111658 [Editorial Report] Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 1632 GMT on 11 Decenber begins a live relay from the Omar Torrijos Airport in Panama City, Panama, of the arrival from Argentina of U.S. Vice President George Bush. The announcer notes that various Panamanian Government officials, led by President Ricardo de la Espriella, are on hand to greet the vice president, adding that a Panamanian military company is on the runway to participate in the official welcome.

At 1635 GMT, the announcer reports that Vice President Bush's plane has landed. At 1639 GMT, the vice president and his wife are reported to disembark, after which they are officially greeted and the U.S. and Panamanian national anthems are played. Following the rendition of the two anthems, the troops of the Panamanian Puma Battalion Company extend military greetings to Vice President Bush and are formally reviewed by the vice president and President De la Espriella. At 1646 GMT, De la Estriella introduces the U.S. vice president to the government officials on had, after which the official welcoming ceremony concludes and President De la Espriella and Vice President Bush retire to a room at the airport for a formal meeting. The live relay ends at 1654 GMT, with no speeches having been broadcast.

DE LA ESPRIELLA REASSURES ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL

PA091945 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] President Ricardo de la Espriella this morning met with the three Electoral Tribunal magistrates so that they could point out and explain alleged problems and pressure that could obstruct the 1984 elections. After listening to the Electoral Tribunal officials speak about the pressure issue, President De la Espriella reiterated the government's economic support for the duration of 1983 and promised that in January, when the 1984 budget goes into effect, the Electoral Tribunal will have all the funds it needs to carry out its work with economic independence.

De la Espriella guaranteed that experts will operate Electoral Tribunal computers, and ordered the National Institute of Telecommunications to install the microwave lines needed in the country's provinces to centralize the electoral processing service. De la Espriella also guaranteed that special audiovisual equipment will be put in operation to speed up the identification card process in order to guarantee that a large percentage of people will be able to vote in the 1984 elections.

These are some of the difficulties that the Electoral Tribunal has been facing and making public for several months.

BRIEFS

RESIGNATION OF FRAMPO LEADER -- On 2 Decemger, Dr Juan Manuel Castulovich, secretary general of the Popular Broad Front Party [FRAMPO], presented his resignation to the party's Directorate and National Executive Committee. [Summary] [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 7 Dec 83 p 2 PA]

YITZHAQ RABIN VISIT -- Former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin met in Panama City with President Ricardo de a Espriella and members of the Defense Forces during a brief visit aimed at improving bilateral relations. [Text] [Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Dec 83 PA]

COSTA RICA

MINISTER BLAMES NICARAGUA FOR ATTACK ON SHIP

PA112212 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2301 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] San Jose, 10 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Armando Arauz, Costa Rican acting foreign minister, today insisted that the attack on the Costa Rican ship, "Lyon Heart," was carried out by the Sandinist Air Force.

The cargo ship, owned by a Costa Rican company called Coordinated Caribbean Transport, Inc, was machinegunned on Monday by two aircraft that, according to the ship's crew, belonged to the Sandinist Air Force.

The "Lyon Heart" was sailing 75 miles off the coast of the Gracias a Dios cape, between Nicaragua and Honduras, when it was attacked without prior warning. The crewmembers said that the attack was carried out by aircraft belonging to the Sandinist Air Force, but Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has stated that "the Sandinist Army has not carried out maneuvers in that area," and added that "it is possible the attack was carried out by Honduran aircraft."

Foreign Minister Arauz reiterated that the attack was carried out by Sandinist aircraft, but admitted that there is some confusion regarding the responsible parties since the crewmembers were unable to identify the registration numbers because the aircraft flew away rapidly and because of the bad weather. Arauz arrived at this conclusion after studying the initial reports submitted by Costa Rican Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano, who stated that "given a choice between believing what the Costa Rican crewmembers have said and what the Nicaraguan authorities have said, I will stand by what the Costa Rican crewmembers said."

MONGE LEAVES FOR ARGENTINA, VENEZUELA 8 DEC

PA091625 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge left yesterday for Argentina via Miami with a stopover in Rio de Janeiro. Shortly before boarding his plane, he told newsmen that in Buenos Aires he will meet with the presidents of Peru, Panama, Guatemala, and Colombia, and with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, mainly to discuss Costa Rica's declaration of neutrality, which was issued at the national and international levels.

On Saturday, Monge will attend the inauguration of Raul Alfonsin, the new Argentine president. Monday afternoon he will leave for Venezuela to meet with President Luis Herrera Campins, President-elect Jaime Lusinchi, and members of the Democratic Action Party.

President Monge told local newsmen that in his meeting with the Colombian president, he will voice concern over the slow progress of the Contadora Group's efforts. Meanwhile, while in Buenos Aires he did not dismiss the possibility of meeting with Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who will be another guest at Alfonsin's inauguration. Monge said that they might meet during a luncheon that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez will host for all the presidents attending the inauguration. Monge said that if the meeting with Ortega Saavedra is held, the topic of Nicaraguan-Costa Rican relations will have to be included on the agenda.

President Monge will return to Costa Rica the evening of Tuesday, 13 December, after having fulfilled his commitments in Argentina and Venezuela. He is accompanied on the trip by Rolando Araya Monge, minister of public works and transport; Fernando Berrocal Soto, minister of the Presidency; Luis Bonilla Salas, deputy minister of health; and Rodolfo Silva Vargas.

Vice president Alberto Fait Lizano will be in charge of the Presidency during President Monge's absence.

CIVIL GUARD LEADER DENIES BORDER CLASHES

PA101736 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Colonel Oscar Vidal, director of the Costa Rican Civil Guard, has denied press reports of armed clashes on the Nicaraguan border. The high-ranking officer said that calm and tranquillity reign in that region, adding that perhaps the fireworks used in some local festivities made some think that the lights and noise came from alleged clashes between Costa Ricans and foreign forces.

The rumors derive from the announcement by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries operating in Costa Rica and Honduras of an intensification in their aggressive actions against the Sandinist revolution. Last week, the main anti-Sandinist leaders met with Richard Stone, the U.S. presidential envoy to Central America.

EL SALVADOR

CENTRAL ELECTORAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZES CAMPAIGN

PA090406 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 8 Dec 83 p 37

[Text] Effective today, the electoral campaign that will end with the 25 March elections has been authorized by the Central Electoral Council, CCE. Eliseo Rovira Mixco, a member of the CCE, made the announcement yesterday on radio and television.

The Constituent Assembly had initiated the elections last week, but the CCE has announced that the electoral campaign will officially begin today.

Meanwhile, politicains consider the fact that the presidential campaign announced by the CCE has begun without the respective electoral law to be a contradiction.

U.S. VICE PRESIDENT BUSH ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA112207 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2147 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- "El Salvador and the United States share many common values; both societies are determined to resist communist aggression," U.S. Vice President George Bush said this afternoon upon his arrival in San Salvador for a 5-hour visit.

Bush arrived with his wife at the Comalapa International Airport, where he was greeted by Salvadoran Vice Presidents Raul Molina Martinez, Gabriel Mauricio Gutierrez Castro, and Pablo Mauricio Alvergue. He arrived under strict security measures.

FMLN on Preparations for Visit

PA110420 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] As an indication of the nervousness of the power circles in the United States, George Bush is arriving in El Salvador at a time when U.S. newspapers are highlighting the failure of Reagan's military policy in our country, where millions of dollars in military aid for the Salvadoran Government have achieved nothing.

The capital city has been the setting of roundups and arrests in preparation for Bush's visit. Bush will be met by President Alvaro Magana and transferred, via helicopter, to a luxurious mansion in a San Salvador neighborhood that this millionaire owns. It is expected that Bush will deliver the latest orders to be followed by the dictatorship.

Bush Visit Denounced

PA110423 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Last year, when the UN Human Rights Commission submitted a report on violations of human rights in El Salvador, the dictatorship again evidenced its hypocrisy, trying, as it were, to cover the sun with one finger, claiming to be the victim of an international propaganda conspiracy. One year later, it is clear that the dictatorship, unconditionally supported by the Reagan administration, is not complying with its international commitments regarding human rights.

The dictatorship, with its repressive corps, its Army, and the death squads, continues to engage in terrorist acts that offer no guarantee to human life in this country, failing to comply with the obligation to protect the citizens rather than to eliminate them systematically with excessive cruelty, for the sole purpose of holding on to power and maintaining the unjust economic and social structures, foremost of which is the oligarchy.

The judicial branch, or what we could call the false system of justice of the dictatorship, is in fact a useless structure left to hide the true criminals, those who preside over the Constituent Assembly, lead the puppet troops, and shake hands with ranking U.S. officials.

In general, the party primarily responsible for the violations of human rights in El Salvador is none other than the Ronald Reagan regime, as it has sponsored both politically and militarily, this carnage against our people.

Tomorrow, 11 December, when U.S. Vice President George Bush is greeted and embraced by his dictatorship puppets, our people will ask themselves: Why is George Bush coming to El Salvador? We will be asking George Bush, in turn, if, during his visit here, and as part of his demagogic democratic policy, he intends to visit the dungeons of the repressive corps to see our missing and tortured brothers? Is he going to listen to the clamor of thousands of mothers demanding clarification concerning the fate of more than 3,000 missing Salvadorans, in the hands of the dictatorship?

In case Mr Bush is not aware of this, 1 of every 100 Salvadorans has been murdered with the weapons delivered to the dictatorship by his imperialist government. Should one percent of the U.S. population be killed, as the dictatorship has done here, it would mean that 2.3 million North Americans would die.

Bush Said Bringing More Aid

PA120346 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] George Bush, the highest-ranking emissary of war sent by the Reagan administration to our country, has arrived. George Bush, vice president of the U.S. imperialist Government, is carrying a speech on human rights in one hand, and planes and machineguns used by the dictatorship to continue killing our people in the other. George Bush is bringing Reagan's deadly Christmas gift to our people. Reagan, who decided to give his unconditional support to the Magana regime, has given a blank check to the death squads and the puppet Army so that they can continue to kill Salvadorans.

The U.S. imperialist Government, with its high-handed policy, has sent Bush to El Salvador to assure the oligarchy and the dictatorship that the military aid is guaranteed and that it doesn't matter whether human rights are being violated. It is absurd for Bush to talk about human rights when he is bringing a shipment of bombs and machineguns that will be used to kill, massacre, and kidnap thousands of Salvadorans.

Mr Bush, vice president of the U.S. Government, your government's weapons have been used to massacre more than 50,000 Salvadorans. Your government's weapons have been used by the henchmen to take aim at, kidnap, and cause the disappearance of more than 3,000 Salvadorans thus far. Your government's weapons have been used to commit a true genocide in our homeland. The noble and just blood of U.S. citizens has also been shed here by the people's assassins, using U.S. weapons. Our people, on the basis of their legitimate right to self-defense, will not allow your invading troops to stain our dignity and national sovereignty. More U.S. blood will be shed because of your government, which thinks it can give orders throughout the world because of its weapons and dollars.

We demand an end to U.S. military aid to the dictatorship. We demand the withdrawal of U.S. military advisers from our country. For the respect of their human rights, our people fight and win.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER DISCUSSES DEATH SQUADS

PA102217 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Speech by Colonel Jaun Rafael Bustillo, commander of the Salvadoran Air Force, on National Aviation Day, given at the Ilopango Military Airport on 9 December 1983 -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The Salvadoran Air Force and its personnel have maintained, within the bounds of its customs and traditions, a spiritual and religious way of commemorating its special days. December 10 is one of those days. National Aviation Day is also the feast of the Virgin of Loreto.

I wish to take advantage of this official ceremony to discuss the death squads. First, I do not know for whom they work. Second, if they are working for the left wing, they are achieving their objective of involving the Armed Forces in human rights violations, and at the same time they are creating a negative and even hostile climate in the U.S. Congress against our forces. Third, if it is true, as it has been said, that they are associated with the right wing, I believe that they are crazy, because as long as they continue their actions, they are increasingly aiding the subversive actions of the FMLN-FDR, [applause] since more stringent restrictions will be imposed on economic and military aid for our country.

Fourth, if they are anticommunists, as they have publicly stated in the media, they are, by their unjust actions, helping to strengthen the propaganda against their Armed Forces.

I know that there is no perfect society on earth. Ours is no exception. However, we must study the actions threatening our peace and tranquillity. As a society in search of democracy, we, the true Salvadorans, must not forget our obligations to our homeland. We must always recall and bear in mind its imperfections in order to correct and overcome them. Thank you.

FMLN ON ALERT DUE TO HONDURAN-U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

PA090510 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Attention, your attention to this information which has been received by Radio Venceremos regarding new aggressive plans on the part of the Honduran puppet Army: In recent days, the Honduran Government, led by General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez and Roberto Suazo Cordova, has increased its aggressive movements against our people. We have received the following reports:

A military gunship carried out a reconnaissance mission and strafed the border area between Morazan Department and Honduras. The strafing incident took place at 1630 on 6 December near the hills overlooking Perquin, San Fernando, and Joateca. There was also strafing near the hills overlooking the town of Torola on 7 December at 1130.

Prior to these incidents, Colonel Adelberto Cruz, commander of the military garrison in San Francisco Gotera, traveled by helicopter to Honduran military posts on the border with Morazan Department. Colonel Cruz and other Salvadoran military commanders have met with top Honduran military commanders there.

Meanwhile, Honduran Army units have carried out terrain reconnaissance missions, patrolling the Honduran border area that includes the town of (Colomoncargua), located on the border with Morazan Department. These actions are part of the deployments of the Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers, the Big Pine II maneuvers, which extend to the city of La Experanza, Intipuca Department, south of Honduras and north of Morazan Department. The Big Pine II maneuvers were extended to the city of La Esperanza on Friday, 2 December, and 3 days later -- that is, 5 December -- a heavy U.S. Army helicopter coming from that town overflew the town and hills of Torola while on a reconnaissance mission in Morazan Department.

In response to these incidents, the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front Command has ordered a state of alert for all troops belonging to the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade and for all defensive units in Morazan Department. Our forces are ready to face the aggression perpetrated by foreign troops against our territory. The reactivation of CONDECA [Central American Defense Council], the presence of U.S. and Honduran troops in the city of La Esperanza, and the coordination meetings and aerial reconnaissance activities throughout the border area clearly show the increased actions in preparation for the execution of aggressive plans already prepared by the U.S. Government and Ronald Reagan. Honduras has become a U.S. military base for the launching of aggression against the Salvadoran people. The FMLN is ready to face aggression, whenever it comes. Starting today, our forces in Morazan Department are on alert status.

Our Salvadoran people are a dignified people, ready to defend our sovereignty. We are a revolutionary Army [passage indistinct]. Our revolutionary Army is on a war footing against the imperialist aggression.

Havana on FMLN Alert

PA111952 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] The FMLN General Command has placed all of its guerrilla units in eastern El Salvador on a state of alert due to the possibility of incursions into Salvadoran territory by Honduran troops. A communique broadcast by the rebel station Radio Venceremos reported an increase in the Honduran Army's aggressive actions against the Salvadoran people. It added that this coincides with the fact that the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers have been moved to areas of Honduras bordering El Salvador's Morazan Department, one of the bastions of the FMLN guerrillas.

Radio Venceremos also charged that Colonel Adalberto Cruz, commander of the military garrison in San Francisco Gotera, the capital of Morazan Department, has recently held meetings with Honduran military leaders.

Others reports indicate that since last night, the Salvadoran regime's Air Force has been bombing large portions of the central departments of San Vicente and Cabanas. Similar bombings of towns near Guazapa Hill, about 35 km from San Salvador, have also been reported.

FMLN REPORTS VIDES CASANOVA VISITS WASHINGTON

PA110345 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Vides Casanova has made a surprise trip to Washington to beg for help. The sudden presence of Salvadoran Defense Minister Eugenio Vides Casanova in the U.S. capital has caused surprise. General Vides Casanova has met with high-ranking officials of the U.S. Department of Defense. Political observers have said that his visit is aimed at reassuring the U.S. Government in view of the wave of murders committed by the government death squads, and at calming Pentagon nerves affected by the recent defeats experienced by the Salvadoran Army.

Vides Casanova promised victories. He adopted so-called new tactics and reshuffled military commanders. However, the outcome has only led to situations such as the one experienced by the Anamoros Carrison, La Union Department, where an entire infantry company, including a commissioned officer and two warrant officers, surrendered to the FMLN.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI ON STONE, WHITE REMARKS

PA091515 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK has described the recent changes in the top leadership of dictatorship's Army in our country as an act of desperation. The magazine added that so far U.S. support has proved ineffective because our forces seize the Yankee armament and materiel supplied to the puppet troops, who have not won a single victory. The magazine pointed out: In view of this dilemma, Reagan will likely commit his intervention troops to the struggle soon.

In addition, Richard Stone, Ronald Reagan's superambassador, will start another tour through Central America and the Contadora Group countries, which are drafting a peace plan for Central America. As a result of the efforts by Nicaragua's revolutionary Government to find a peaceful solution to the Central American conflict, Reagan's interventionist and aggressive plans are encountering difficulties. Now Richard Stone appears on the scene again, trying to forestall the efforts that our peoples are carrying out for peace in Central America.

Our enemies' tricks and strategies have failed when confronted with the will of a whole people. Robert White, former ambassador of Yankee imperialism to our country, recently admitted our forces' superiority over the puppet troops. There is nothing the U.S. advisers can do to raise the morale of and to inspire a sense of purpose in an Army whose leaders torture and murder. The time has come to accept the guerrilla movement, said White, who occupied his post when Monsignor Romero and the four U.S. nuns were murdered and an intense, repressive campaign was unleashed against our people.

GUATEMALA

MILITARY JUNTA RECEIVES ELECTORAL BILL

PA100223 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Dec 83 p 16

[Excerpts] Arturo Herbruger Asturias, Surpeme Electoral Tribunal president, said that the National Constituent Assembly will be comprised of 65 deputies elected by departments or districts, depending on the population of the electoral circuit.

According to Herbruger Asturias this is one of the most important articles of the electoral bill, which the Tribunal submitted yesterday to Manuel de Jesus Giron Tanchez, secretary of the military government junta.

The bill consists of three parts; one establishes basic norms, the second the electoral process itself, and the third sanctions and other matters.

The basic norms are contained in 24 articles which are the essence of the bill, Herbruger Asturias pointed out.

He announced that the age barrier requiring that candidates to the Assembly be over 30 hears of age is not applicable to university graduates.

Finally, Herbruger Asturias explained that naturalized citizens were not excluded from the electoral process because it was time to stop treating them as second class citizens.

ARMY REVEALS DEATH TOLL IN ARMED CLASHES

PA092250 Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish 9 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] These are some statistics from an undeclared war: According to a military report, nine Army officers have been killed in armed clashes with the guerrillas from January through November of this year. The overall death toll is 472 guerrillas, 90 members of the Armed Forces, 32 Civil Defense patrolmen, and 60 civilians.

According to the report there were no fatalities among Army officers in June, July, or August, but in November there were two. Colonel (Luis Seguili Kapel), Solola Military Post commander, was one of the casualties.

The same statistics for January reveal that the death toll was 60 guerrillas, 1 officer, 27 soldiers, and 4 civilians; for April, 41 guerrillas and 16 soldiers; for June, 48 guerrillas and 10 soldiers; and for September, 73 guerrillas, 1 officer, 13 soldiers, and 14 civilians. The death toll in May among members of the Civil Defense was 12, the highest in a single month. The statistics indicate that the number of dead among guerrillas, militarymen, and civilians is roughly 660.

HONDURAS

NICARAGUA UNEXPECTEDLY CLOSES BORDER POST

PA091745 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Choluteca -- On Thursday, 8 December, at 1300, the Nicaraguan Government decided to close the El Espino customs post to all traffic, including private vehicles, again violating international laws on free passage and obstructing the flow of Central American trade. Reasons for the decision are not known.

The Nicaraguan Government's decision has rendered the Honduran customs post of Fraternidad inactive. The Honduran Army detachment stationed there remains alert to any eventuality, due to the fact that the Sandinist people's army has increased its strength in the area in conjunction with its government's decision to close the post.

We therefore advise those Central American governments that trade with Nicaragua, so as to save them time and unnecessary transportation expenses, as well as all owners of private vehicles who plan to travel to or return from Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama, that on Thursday, 8 December, the Sandinist government closed El Espino customs post without prior notice.

NAVAL BATTLE WITH NICARAGUAN BOATS REPORTED

PA100358 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Dec 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Amapala, Valle -- Honduran and Nicaraguan Coast Guard patrols clashed in a bitter naval battle at dawn last Monday, residents near the Gulf of Fonseca have told LA PRENSA.

The clash took place in Honduran territorial waters near Punta Condega, and all that is known is that one of our Coast Guard patrol boats was seriously damaged. Nothing is known about damage done to the invading boats.

Residents of that sector have been frightened by these incidents. One person who witnessed the action, Marco Antonio Murillo, said that the battle started at 0300 Monday and ended minutes later when the Nicaraguan patrol boats fled to Nicaragua.

As a result of the Sandinist incursions in Honduran waters, the Honduran Navy has doubled land, sea, and air watches, as confirmed by the permanent presence of armed soldiers in the sectors of Coyolito and Amapala, as well as continued patrols by helicopter gunships.

The zone's military units have also been reinforced, and have provided modern equipment with greater effectiveness, thanks to the radar installed by the U.S. Army as part of the joint maneuvers Big Pine II.

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ANTICIPATED IN JANUARY

PA092159 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] San Pedro Sula -- Although the changes that will reportedly take place in Honduran autonomous entities during the first few days of January 1984 have not been officially disclosed, we know of at least several officials who may be removed from their positions.

Insistent rumors point to the appointment of Enrique Vitanza, current manager of the Honduran Cement Corporation, as manager of the National Ports Corporation, replacing Jeronimo Sandoval, who will be transferred to the National Enterprise for Electric Power. Oscar Mejia Arellano will reportedly be appointed secretary of state for the Presidency, while Marcelino Ponce Martinez [one of President Suazo's three presidential designates] will reportedly be appointed secretary of state for government and justice.

Other reports from San Pedro Sula say that Salomon Fajardo will be the new secretary of state for public health and social aid, as well as director of the Leonardo Martinez Hospital in San Pedro Sula, replacing Ruben Garcia Martinez. Changes in various municipalities in Cortes Department have also been announced.

POLITICAL LEADER OPPOSES INDEMNITY PAYMENTS

PA090223 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 8 Dec 83 p 52

[Text] "The Honduran Government does not have to pay indemnity for lands that legitimately belong to the state; the matter should not even be discussed," economist Efrain Diaz Arrivillaga, a Christian Democratic deputy in the National Congress, said yesterday.

The Christian Democratic leader stated that it is "illegal from all points of view" to pay indemnities for Morat Island and the lands where the Regional Military Training and Security Center (CREMS) is located in Trujillo, required in both cases for Honduras to be included in the Reagan plan. "In the case of CREMS," he said, "the black communities living in those lands have rightfully demanded ownership. It is inconceivable that these demands have been ignored and that today there is talk of indemnifying supposed owners of other nationalities."

"I do not believe this matter even warrants discussion. The government should not agree to pay for lands that are legitimately the property of the state," he repeated.

Referring to the fact that aid to Honduras within the Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative was questioned, Diaz Arrivillaga said: "I believe that the disputes over the lands used by CREMS and Morat Island are not important enough to have excluded Honduras from the group of countries to benefit from the aid."

"What is evident," he said, "is that the alliance with the United States proclaimed by the government has not materialized in concrete aspects, such as inclusion in the CBI."

NICARAGUA

BORGE REFUSES OPPOSITION ELECTION APPEAL

PA091450 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] In reply to statements by members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board in Europe that they will come of the 1985 elections only if the revolutionary government allows the leaders of the somozist guardsmen to enter the country, Tomas Borge, interior minister and commander of the revolution, told Radio Sandino: The Sandinist front would be disloyal to our people if we allowed the top officers of the genocidal National Guard to return to Nicaragua.

The revolutionary leader, who was visiting the altars of Virgin Mary, asked dozens of children and parents in the Riguero neighborhood of Managua if they wanted the top Somozist officers to return. They all answered "no" in unison.

Regarding the so-called Sacasa Coordinating Board's refusal to participate in the upcoming 1985 elections if entrance to Nicaragua is denied the Somozist officers, Commander Borge said: Why would they participate in the elections when they would not get any votes?

BORGE REJECTS ANTI-SANDINIST RECONCILIATION

PA102300 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] The first meeting of nongovernmental organizations ended a short while ago with a strong condemnation of the economic, political, and military aggression against Nicaragua. In the event, which was held in the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center, the interior minister, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, once again reiterated the revolution's political desire to seek peaceful solutions for the area.

Regarding the campaigns that seek to distort and tarnish the revolution's image, which are orchestrated by U.S. imperialism and followed by its so-called democratic servants who speak of the people's reconciliation with the assassins, the revolutionary leader said:

[Begin recording] One cannot ignore what is known here even by the Nicaraguans who receive revolutionary attention in the child development centers. Not a single counterrevolutionary leaf shakes in Central America without this being decided by imperialism. They sentence our peasants to death. They sentence our children to death. They kidnap poor men and women. In this there is no difference between the Guardsmen who kill in the north and those who kill in the south. They are equally responsible for killing so many Nicaraguans. They have the same objectives. They kill with the same weapons, given them by the same master. They are dogs trained by the same master. The conclusion of all this is that pseudo worker's leaders have been given the mission of absolving of blame those they consider less stained with the blood of our brothers so as to have them ready for what they suppose -- very mistakenly -- will be the people's reconciliation with their assassins.

We will reconcile ourselves with the counterrevolutionary leaders when the children of Ayapal return to their parents, when the Sandinist youths killed in the north and south return to their homes and schools, when the hundreds of workers and peasants killed in combat or murdered in acts of cowardice can once again bring happiness to the hearts of their parents, wives, and children. We will reconcile ourselves with the anti-Sandinist counterrevolutionary leaders, the murderous leaders, the murderous traitors, on the day of the resurrection of the dead. [end recording]

ORTEGA REJECTS RECONCILIATION WITH SOMOZISTS

PA091840 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Humberto Ortega, commander of the revolution and defense minister, has told Freddy Balzan, director of the Magazine PATRIA LIBRE: We do not believe that the people, who were killed, exploited, and oppressed by the Somozist dictatorship, can be reconciled with their enemies. Commander Ortega was replying to a question regarding reconciliation with former Somozist Guardsmen, which sectors outside the country and local reactionaries are promoting following the latest decrees issued by our revolutionary government.

These decrees are aimed at opening our country's doors to all those anti-Sandinists who desire to return and dedicate themselves to productive work, and to contribute to the climate of peace and progress.

In his statement for the November issue of PATRIA LIBRE, which is currently in circulation, Commander Ortega said: We believe that the murderers of the people, who survived the revolutionary people's justice when the tyranny fell on 19 July and then fled to Miami, Honduras, and Costa Rica to carry out aggressive attacks on Nicaragua with CIA aid, must face the justice and laws of our country. In other words, there can be no reconciliation with those groups.

Ortega, who is also commander in chief of the Sandinist people's army, added that the Revolutionary Government is promoting a broad process for the reconstruction of Nicaragua, which is facing serious economic and other problems. Within this framework, we believe that we must continue to push forward, despite the aggressive U.S. policy that we are facing, and facilitate the participation of various political and business sectors that for one reason or another, have moved away from this national reconstruction process. In fact, there is room in it for the country's church hierarchy, which has not fully participated in those reconstruction programs. On occasion they have adopted stands that do not contribute to that climate of peace and stability that we must all help achieve to bring our country out of the poverty in which the Somozists left us, he said.

Commander Humberto Ortega also pointed out: We have struggled and we continue to struggle to find different points and outlooks that will unite the great Nicaraguan family. To us, this family is centered on the working people, laborers, peasants, intellectuals, students, and the youth, who fought in the past against the dictatorship and injustice, who today are working arduously to bring the country out of poverty, and who also shed their blood to repel imperialist attacks.

In explaining the spirit of unity that encourages the national government, the defense minister told PATRIA LIBRE: We struggle to turn the great Nicaraguan family into a single force to complete this great task of national reconstruction. In this way we can build up our defense against the political, diplomatic, and armed attacks on Nicaragua that are being promoted by the U.S. Government under the Reagan administration.

CTN PROPOSES DIALOGUE INCLUDING ARDE LEADERS

PA100201 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1756 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Managua, 9 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan opposition labor leaders today said that "we need" a national dialogue with the participation of ARDE (Democratic Revolutionary Alliance) leaders Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora. Nicaraguan Workers Federation (CTN) leaders Agustin Rodriguez, Eugenio Membreno, and Miguel Angel Salgado said that measures aimed at installing a democracy in the country would be included in the dialogue. The CTN leaders said that ARDE leaders could participate in the dialogue, but they excluded former Somozist guardsmen. The three labor leaders said that "as long as the people do not freely elect their rulers, the government will never be democratic, and we will be subject to actions that will curtail basic individual freedoms."

The Nicaraguan Government recently announced that an electoral process will begin on 31 January. It has decreed an amnesty for those "counterrevolutionaries" who are not the "ringleaders." The CTN stressed that in order to carry out a "real electoral process," necessary legal structures such as drafting a political constitution and an electoral law guaranteeing freedom of the press and movement of the people must be established.

The CTN, affiliated with the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, believes that the amnesty decreed for the Miskito Indians is "a positive step by the Sandinist government."

The three leaders pointed out, however, that "there are prisoners in Nicaraguan jails who did not belong to the Somozist Guard and were not connected with the Somoza dictatorial government, but who are, nevertheless, being held unjustly."

The CTN said that 31 of its members, among them Jose Miranda, president of the Radio and Television Workers Union, are being held prisoner. Miranda was arrested by state security forces in July and has been held since, "although the Sandinist authorities have not presented any charges against him."

The labor leaders said in a press conference that the original program announced by the Sandinist government states that Nicaraguans can freely elect their rulers. They also reported that the federation had filed a suit against the Transportation Ministry on behalf of 414 bus drivers who claim they are owed $350,000 in unpaid wages and welfare benefits.

The CTN expressed support for those steps aimed at setting the bases for a "true democracy," in which the country "will never again be the booty of a family or group in power, and in which the Army will not be a tool at the service of any group to repress the people."

Disagreement Noted

PA100445 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Carlos Huembes Trejos, secretary general of the so-called Union of Nicaraguan Workers, CTN, said in Washington yesterday that our National Reconstruction Government's decrees -- granting the misguided people who opposed our process the right to return to the country, expanding the freedom of the press, and announcing the summons to elections -- are nothing more than propaganda aimed for use abroad. The American Institute for Free Labor Development [AIDLF], an organization known for its imperialist penetration, set up a press conference for CTN's Huembes during which he ranted against the revolutionary process. He stressed that there is no union freedom in Nicaragua; however this is contradicted by his presence in the empire's capital and by his statements. Huembes added that the political opening presented by the Sandinist revolution is nothing more than propaganda aimed at the United States and the West European countries. The AIDLF is sponsoring Huembes' campaign of lies and will be sending him, with the same purpose, to Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama, countries that form the Contadora Group.

While Carlos Huembes Trejos, secretary general of the CTN, was making statements in the United States to the effect that the revolutionary government's recently announced decrees were useless propaganda for export purposes, some of his companeros in Managua supported the decrees. During a press conference, CTN leaders (Sergio Roa), Agustin Rodriguez, Miguel Salgado, and Eugenio Membreno said that their union supports the amnesty and the electoral process decrees announced on 4 December during the closing session of the State Council's legislative period. They called for a national unity action to include those who oppose the people of Sandino and asked that the national dialogue be hosted by the Contadora Group. The CTN leaders, who have said that they represent 60,000 workers, added that the decrees are the first steps toward achieving these goals.

NEW 'LEGITIMACY' GROUP EMERGES WITHIN PCDN

PA092206 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] A temporary movement for legitimacy has emerged in the Democratic Conservative Party [PCDN] to fight division within the top party leadership.

In a signed proclamation, Clemento Guido, Manuel Gutierrez Hurtado, and leader Roberto (Arana Solis), concede that the division within the PCDN top leadership has split the party.

In the document, the group rejects the legitimacy of a so-called National Electoral Committee, which is reportedly led by Miriam Arguello. The document also says that the PCDN summoned all its members to a meeting on 19 November and expelled the committee members for violating the party by-laws. The movement, called the PCDN Temporary Movement for Legitimacy, wants to bring the group that has joined the committee back into the mainstream to achieve the unification of all Conservative Democrats.

One of the concluding parts of the document says: We are not moved by divisionist goals; on the contrary, we have sought to successfully maintain unity among conservatives. Between 1979 and 1982, we have denounced all positions or methods running contrary to the principles of order and good judgment.

In addition to Clemente Guido, Manuel Gutierrez, and Roberto (Arana Solis), the tasking and advisory committee is composed of Enrique Sotelo (Warren), Benigno (Ryan), (Yadira Meneses), Gustavo Mendoza, Cesar A. Castillo, Teresita Mendoza, Gerardo Alfaro, Holis Pedro Espinosa, (Luis Andara Umeda), Carlos Sanchez, (Jose Mack Solis), Amada Sandino Munoz, and Pedro Espinoza.

As we have said, there is a division within the PCDN top leadership. Party members themselves acknowledge that the organization now has two leadership bodies.

VOICE OF SANDINO ON DENTON-D'ESCOTO MEETING

PA091735 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpt] According to international wire dispatches from Costa Rica, Senator Jeremiah Denton from the U.S. Congress, a Vietnam hero, met with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister D'Escoto and high Salvadoran and Panamanian officials. Denton is currently traveling through Central America to learn the area's realities. He has described this as an area of expansion for the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Our listeners will surely be greatly moved to see how far the FSLN's totalitarianism -- with the aid of Cuba -- has gone in the regions of conflict. It is easy to determine the degree of Cuban and USSR penetration when the senator is able to define this as an area of expansion for Cuba and the Soviet Union.

The U.S. senator blamed congressional leaders and some U.S. media who have let themselves be influenced by leftist sectors which release false information on what is going on in Central America, mainly in Nicaragua, (?although) rebellion extends through the area and, together with Cuba, threatens to Vietnamize Central America in case an invasion occurs. On talking to D'Escoto, Denton looked disappointed because the Nicaraguan official made the type of conversation that Denton himself used to hear from Vietnamese communist leaders. D'Escoto never admitted that foreign advisors were leaving Managua, and, regarding the commitments that the Managua communist leaders made in 1979, the foreign minister's replies were not good.

The U.S. senator said the U.S. people believe that the revolution was betrayed and that this justifies the presence of U.S. troops in Puerto Castilla, Honduras. It is ridiculous to compare the number of U.S. troops in the Honduran north to the quantity of arms that Nicaragua has for conventional warfare. Another topic discussed by Denton is the fact that Costa Rica is beginning to feel the danger involved in the presence of Cuba and Nicaragua in the area. He said that he hopes that Costa Ricans manage to maintain their traditional freedom and democracy at all costs.

There is a very important aspect of the statements by the senator and Vietnam hero -- that is, that President Reagan has presented to Congress a series of initiatives for economic development in Central America and the Caribbean which have been hampered by Congress because there is much confusion regarding events in Central America. Now, who promotes that confusion? Those who seek to destabilize these countries? Those who favor international communism or are communists in the U.S. Congress and other organizations? This destabilization helps the establishment of leftist dictatorships in Central America.

The Soviet Union has extended its influence over Africa and southeast Asia. It is now up to Central Americans to face this threat and to struggle against U.S. Congressional leaders who have let themselves be influenced by leftists -- through newspapers, the television, communist magazines, and hard cash -- to disclose a distorted reality of current events in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

Today, Foreign Minister D'Escoto acted like a Vietnamese soldier, as was to be expected from a Managua Marxist totalitarian who thinks he has control over Central America as well as the Caribbean, in order to extend that control throughout Latin America.

ARDE OFFICIALLY REFUSES GOVERNMENT AMNESTY

PA091845 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] has officially rejected the amnesty offered by the Managua totalitarian government. Jose Davila Membreno, member of ARDE revolutionary directorate, told the news media in San Jose that ARDE, composed of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN; the Indian movement of Miskitos, Sumus, Ramas, and Creoles, MISURASATA-SICC; the Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS; and the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC, rejects the pretended amnesty decreed by the Managua totalitarian government, because this is only a measure of apparent opening in order to calm world pressure and to improve the deteriorated image of the dictatorial despotism of the uniformed nine who hold power.

At the moment of this statement, the ARDE Christian Democratic leader was accompanied by Indian leader Brooklyn Rivera, who also described as a lying manipulation the alleged pardon offered to hundreds of Indians from the Atlantic zone, as well as the invitation to Indians exiled in Costa Rica and Honduras to return to Nicaragua. This stance officially confirms recent pronouncements made by other ARDE members, such as Alfonso Robelo and Commander Eden Pastora from the Nicaraguan mountains after he returned from the United States.

Some time ago, Dr Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, president of the democratic coordinator that includes the democratic civic opposition in the country, said in Panama that these amnesty decrees were incomplete, as was a call to elections to be held on an unspecified date in 1985, because there is not a climate of freedom or international guarantees in this alleged opening of the totalitarians. Nor is there a consensus of all the Nicaraguan groups, particularly those patriots who have taken up arms. In the Nicaraguan consulates in San Jose, Tegucigalpa, and San Francisco, as well as in Miami, there is a significant emptiness that speaks for itself on the mistrust that the Managua government decrees ellicit from Nicaraguan exiles.

ARDE APPROVES INTERNAL ORGANIZATION STATUTE

PA092025 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] assembly has approved its internal statutes.

On 6 December, the 16 delegates of ARDE's Democratic Assembly and the three additional delegates recently appointed, discussed, and approved in San Jose after 3 days' discussion, the statute that will regulate Assembly activities. The institutionalization of the information, international relations, and political secretariats was ratified. In these secretariats there will be a collective directorate that will represent the affiliate organizations, although there will be a single general coordinator. These secretariats will, in turn, be coordinated by the person in charge of the Directorate. Some days ago, the Democratic Assembly had been established as the highest governing body of the alliance, leaving the executive role to the Directorate, which operates as the Assembly's director.

ARDE'S ROBELO COMMENTS ON JUNTA DECREES

PA101537 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

["Message to the Nicaraguan People" Issued by Alfonso Robelo Callejas, member of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Directorate; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] On 4 December, the FSLN National Directorate's government issued two decrees. The first was published last Tuesday in the newspaper LA NACION, and deserves some comment. First, we must note that the second "whereas" reveals quite clearly that there has been a flagrant fusion of the government party and the government itself. The second "whereas" says that, despite the difficult situation confronting the country as a result of imperialist aggression, the FSLN and the government of the republic wish to continue to take the necessary steps to implement the electoral process. This matter deserves our attention, initially because a party is being mentioned in a government decree. This is unusual in itself. In addition, it is placed before the government of the republic in this mention a fact that demonstrates the Nicaraguan situation. Instead of a government, there is a party that handles everything, controls everything, and [word indistinct] this contradicts the decree itself. The will of a single party controls everything. How can we have political pluralism when a single party has this power over the decisions and actions of a government as such?

Second comment: Article No 1 says that the electoral process will begin on 31 January 1984, in accordance with Decree No 503 issued on 10 September 1980. Decree No 503 issued on 10 September 1980 said that the process should begin in January 1984. These experts in manipulation, trickery, and lying now declare that the electoral process should start on the last day of January. This clearly shows that they want only to dupe the innocent into believing that they really desire an electoral process. They are only interested in gaining time. By saying that the process will begin on 31 January, they want to gain as much time as possible, so that they can have the opportunity to complete their totalitarian schemes, which have been rejected by the Nicaraguan people.

Third comment: It says that the date for the elections will be decided by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and will be announced on 21 February 1984. This is quite funny, because it has only said: We announce that we are going to make an announcement on 21 February. Really, this is an insult to intelligent people and is intended only to gain time -- we announce that we are going to announce. This is not only absurd but, in my opinion, it is an insult to the people who read it. The Costa Ricans, the Nicaraguan democrats, and the democrats of the world should realize that this is simply a farce. [Passage indistinct]

As for the second decree, which declares that there will be an amnesty and that a number of things will be (?granted), I call upon my Nicaraguan brothers and the democrats of the world to compare these decrees to those issued by Somoza -- they are the same. Every time that Somoza had a problem he decreed an amnesty. Every time that international pressure was felt or the Nicaraguan people bagan to rebel, an amnesty was decreed. This is the same thing as Somoza's amnesties, and it fools no one. Just as we said a moment ago, the amnesty's only purpose is to gain time.

FRS DEMANDS PARTICIPATION IN PEACE PROCESS

PA092237 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Station commentary: "Peace in Central America Is Not Possible Without Our Participation"]

[Text] The U.S. Government asserted its willingness to give greater support to Contadora in the search for peace in Central America if Nicaragua complied with the 21-point peace plan for the area which was drawn up by Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela. Without doubt, the statements by this powerful northern nation must be taken into consideration, because they are a determining factor in the internal struggle in our country. It is no secret that Russian imperialism and the United States are waging an undeclared war for positions and military, political, and economic supremacy in the world.

Nicaragua is only a small pawn in the great chess game of events being played by these powers. It is also well-known that the other Central American countries -- even though they are independent and observe a true and tested neutrality like Costa Rica -- closely follow the U.S. policy on the conflict in Nicaragua. This directly influences -- one way or the other -- the position adopted by these countries concerning the rebel groups combatting Marxism-Leninism.

In addition, the U.S. Government economically supports those fighting in the north. Hence, U.S. statements must be considered highly important and a determining factor because they are accurate. We, the Sandino Revolutionary Front [FRS], support the Contadora Group in every possible way. Nevertheless, we consider it is appropriate to tell all those participating in the negotiations for peace in the Central American area -- including the United States, which has vested interests in the conflict and seeks a favorable outcome for its geopolitical position in America and the world -- that they can sign all the pacts they want for the peace we all hope for. However, they must never forget that this peace -- which they are negotiating with the best of intentions -- can never be possible at the cost of our freedom. It cannot be possible without solving the internal problem that prevails in Nicaragua. It cannot be possible without our effective participation in the resolution. It cannot be possible without our recognition as belligerent military forces in Nicaraguan. It cannot be possible if there is no justice for the people who cry and demand punishment for the Marxist-Leninist criminals.

So hear us well and remember: If peace is to be achieved, we must be taken into consideration.

VOICE OF SANDINO REPORTS LATEST ARDE MANUEVERS

Two Sandinist Boats Sunk

PA100434 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 112 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua," on 9 December 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] ARDE's Armed Forces General Command informs the Nicaraguan people and all free peoples of the world that:

1. On 6 December at 1300, the (Zarcarias Vivas Squad) of the Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column of the PPH-1 zone ambushed two boats of the pro-Soviet army in the area known as Punta del Coco in Punta Gorda, southern Zelaya.

2. The two boats sank, and their 10 crewmembers died as a result of the attack, which lasted 15 minutes, and included an exchange of small arms fire.

3. We inform the peoples of the world that enemy soldiers have burned several houses and continue burning everything that falls under their control, causing great inconveniences, in an attempt to terrify peasants so they will refrain from helping us.

4. We have learned that 100 wounded men are in one of the houses in the area, owned by (Richard Tula). Some of them are in serious condition, while others are slightly wounded and [words indistinct]. These men have been wounded in our frequent ambushes in this region in the past few days.

Death to the foreign and Cuban internventionist! Without totalitarianism or return to the past!

San Juan del Norte Fighting

PA101342 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 10 Dec 83

[War Bulletin No 113 issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command in "the mountains of Nicaragua," on 9 December 1983]

[Text] ARDE informs the Nicaraguan people and the world's peoples that:

1. At 1600 on 7 December a squad from the Juan Pablo Umanzor Column, operating in the PPH-2 zone under the command of Companeros Malta and Zelaya, attacked positions in San Juan del Norte.

2. The fighting lasted 5 hours, in which our forces dislodged four military groups that had been posted in areas around the town, each containing 30 of the Managua totalitarian regime's soldiers.

3. A total of 35 enemy were killed and several were wounded in this action. For our part, we regret the death of two companeros: Juan Alberto Zelaya Zelaya, who led the operation, and Julio.

4. Fierce fighting is continuing on Ferrero Hill in San Juan del Norte between our forces and the pro-Soviet enemy's troops. We expect to drive the enemy from this area very soon, thus incorporating it into the vast liberated territory that is under ARDE control.

Death to the Cuban and foreign interventionist! Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

HAVANA NOTES RAMIREZ' MEETING WITH MOYNIHAN

FL101358 HAvana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez, member of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, classified as frank and positive a 1-hour meeting he held in Managua with U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, vice chairman of the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee. The Nicaraguan leader said that Moynihan had indicated that he was convinced that Managua and Washington should immediately enter a period of detente in their relations and that peace should be achieved in Central America.

'OUR AMERICA' ON GRENADA AFTER U.S. 'INVASION'

PA111752 Havana International Service in Spanish 2315 GMT 8 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Since the U.S. military invasion of Grenada, the situation on that tiny Caribbean island has gone from bad to worse. The Yankee invaders have not been able to restructure the government, and as a result, political and administrative instability characterize the current domestic situation. The people have not recovered from the traumatic experience of the invasion, and as political observers have noted, it will be very difficult for the invaders and their puppets to erase the memory of the assassinated Prime Minister Maurice Bishop from the hearts of the Grenadian people.

Paul Scoon, the colonial governor of Grenada, has proven that he is a U.S. puppet who is incapable of taking a single step without consulting his imperialist masters. A reporter from Trinidad described him as an insignificant and unimportant man. Despite this, Washington is determined to keep him in office.

Scoon has lost prestige not only in Grenada but among the political and financial circles that supported the invasion of the island as well.

Anthony Rushford recently resigned from the office of attorney general and accused the island's governor-general of not keeping his promise to establish a constitutional government. On announcing his resignation, Rushford said that he had never before heard of a governor-general who proclaimed himself the savior of his people, requested aid from foreign armies, and then did very little to establish a constitutional government.

Economically, Grenada is virtually paralyzed. The country's main economic facilities were destroyed during the attack, and the Yankee invaders have taken no action to assist the incipient Grenadian producers. Washington has limited itself to promoting the private efforts by Caribbean and U.S. financial groups to dominate Grenada's economy.

Simultaneously, Washington has announced its decision to send a team of experts to Grenada to determine what is needed to permit the airport at Point Salines to handle tourist flights. Bishop's government always said that this air terminal, which was built with Cuba's help, was intended for tourism, but U.S. President Ronald Reagan repeatedly insisted that the airport was intended for military use, even using this lie as one of the pretexts for invading the island.

Based on this overall situation, it is clear that the United States intends to stay in Grenada indefinitely. It has been said that a small U.S. contingent will premanently remain on the island when the bulk of the invasion troops are withdrawn, and that the role of guardian of imperialist interests will be played by a joint force from the Caribbean armies that participated in the act of aggression on 25 October.

The self-styled provisional Grenadian Government has already appointed two Barbadian militarymen to key posts in the repressive apparatus that was created in Grenada following the invasion. One was appointed police commissioner and the other was made superintendent of the (Richmond Keel) jail, where some 50 political prisoners are being held. However, be that as it may, the truth is that the United States will not allow the Grenadian people to exercise their will and will try to impose its political and military hegemony there indefinitely, by force.

However, the Grenadian and Latin American peoples will have the final word, because as Cuban leader Fidel Castro has said, Grenada may eventually be to the Yankees in Latin America and the Caribbean what Moncada was to Batista's tyranny in Cuba.

ROA KOURI SPEAKS ON U.S., L.A. 'TYRANNIES'

FL091402 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Cuba has stated at the UN that in Latin America there has been a series of cases of flagrant and massive violations of human rights, due to the different tyrannies and repressive regimes supported by the United States. Human Rights Day will be commemorated tomorrow.

Raul Roa Kouri, Cuban representative to the UN, in a speech before the third commission on the subject of human rights, said that all the tyrannies and repressive regimes have the dubious honor of being intimate friends of the imperialist Government of the United States, which defends them with cloak and dagger. Roa Kouri pointed out that from Paraguay, dismal because of Stroessner, and militarized Uruguay to Pinochet's sinister prison and the genocidal regimes of El Salvador and Guatemala, there is a long shadow of reactionary terror cast by the imperial eagle, which protects and encourages them.

Cuba also accused the United States of violating the norms of international law and of not respecting diplomatic immunity of UN member states, despite its obligations under the 1961 Vienna Convention.

'OUR AMERICA' CITES RECENT NICARAGUAN MOVES

PA082024 Havana International Service in Spanish 2315 GMT 7 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] In the past few days, the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government has taken important steps to achieve the institutionalization of the country and to bring the people even closer to the revolution at a time when the homeland is being threatened by a U.S. invasion.

Commander Daniel Ortega has said that today Nicaragua has the strongest and most popular government ever. In closing the State Council's fourth legislative session, Daniel Ortega presented decrees concerning the beginning of the electoral process and the amnesty that will allow thousands of Nicaraguans to return to their homeland.

The first of these measures sets the beginning of the electoral campaign throughout Nicaragua for 31 January 1984. It also specifies that the date of the elections will be announced on 21 February 1984. In addition, Commander Daniel Ortega said that electoral campaigning for specific candidates or political parties will be allowed by the competent organization, as regulated by the electoral law. He said that the process will come to an end in 1985, when general elections will be held.

The Government Junta coordinator also referred to the official decree giving those citizens who left the country after 19 July 1979 the right to return to Nicaragua, even if they were involved in armed operations against the state. Excluded from his measure are the former officers of the dissolved National Guard and the members of the Somozist Security Forces who have committed repressive acts, as well as those people who have been sentenced in due process and have not been pardoned by the State Council.

Commander Daniel Ortega said that the amnesty decree gives those who desire to start a new life the opportunity to do so. He added that these people have been the victims of terror, repression, and deception. The Sandinist leader said that these measures, like the amnesty given to the Miskito Indians and the calls for dialogue and national unity, are in line with the principles and commitments that the Nicaraguan people have chosen for themselves. These are not signs of the revolution's weakness, as the enemies of the new Nicaragua have been suggesting, he said.

Ortega also rejected a proposal from a so-called coordinating board of organizations that oppose the revolutionary process calling for the participation of counterrevolutionary forces in the national dialogue taking place in Nicaragua. He pointed out that they are forgetting that these are completely artificial forces, nourished and created by the U.S. Government through the CIA.

Commander Daniel Ortega said that the U.S. behavior toward the Sandinist revolution has not changed at all. The United States continues to threaten Nicaragua's territorial integrity. He stressed that this forces the people to be on the alert in the face of a possible intervention, either directly or by the use of the Honduran Army.

He said that the Sandinist revolution will not be taken by surprise. Today it has greater popular support and maturity. More than 1.5 million Nicaraguans are ready to fight the U.S. invaders in the event that they decide to attack us. They will encounter a people ready to face the invaders and give them no quarter.

Finally, Daniel Ortega praised the Contadora Group members for their search for a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis. However, he said that as long as the United States does not give up its policy of intervention and force, and as long as the armed conflict continues in El Salvador, a real and lasting peace will not be achieved in the region.

'CRUELTY' OF SALVADORAN REGIME CONDEMNED

PA112203 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] It is the usual practice of anti-popular governments to levy their cruelty on the civilian population when their political-military plans fail. Such was the case with the Fulgencio Batista dictatorship in Cuba, with Carlos Castillo Armas in Guatemala, and with Anastasio Somoza in Nicaragua. There are many other examples in our America to illustrate this claim.

Today, one of the most eloquent examples is that of the Salvadoran dictatorship. Bogged down for more than 3 years in a war against the people, the oligarchy and the Armed Forces of El Salvador have suffered one setback after another, despite the extensive political, military, and economic support received from the U.S. Government.

The Salvadoran Army has recently been incapable of scoring a single important victory over the war-tempered rebel columns of the FMLN. The situation is acquiring the dimensions of a catastrophe, and in view of the pressure being exerted by the United States on the ruling clique of El Salvador, the latter finds no better remedy than to massacre the people.

Hundreds of defenseless peasants are tortured and murdered by the Army and paramilitary groups, which later exhibit the bodies as if they were guerrillas killed in combat, an old tactic used by the dictatorships of this continent.

This week, the rebel Radio Venceremos charged that members of the Armed Forces' engineering training center are engaging in general repression in large sectors of La Paz Department. The report reveals that the troops have made a daily practice of raping young peasant girls, while by using other tactics of terror, they try to sow panic among the population. The same source noted that in the communities of Palo Grande and Piedra Grande, a company from the training center kidnapped several peasants. While their fate is unknown, it is feared that they may have been murdered.

In San Salvador, official repression also claims its victims daily. The National Guard arrested five labor leaders from a sugar refinery last Wednesday, charging them with participating in the outlawed Communist Party of El Salvador and of collaborating with the guerrilla forces.

Military sources also confirmed the creation of a new Cazadores Battalion, with units from the 5th Infantry Brigade, known for its annihilation operations against peasant communities. U.S. military advisers participated in the organization of this new battalion.

The Salvadoran executioners received special training from the Israeli, Chilean, and other repressive regimes. The Israelis are known for their mastery of torture techniques, which they often use against the Palestinian population in the occupied Arab territories. The Israeli torturers are familiar with the method of annihilating entire communities, a practice also used in El Salvador by their army wards. The massacres at the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila are examples showing how far the enemies of the peoples, such as imperialism, Zionism, and the national bourgeoisies can go.

The executioners of today, however, will have to pay for their crimes tomorrow. The heroic Salvadoran people know this, and with weapons in hand, they fight to hasten the downfall of the pro-U.S. dictatorship, which today stains with blood the fatherland of Augustin Farabundo Marti.

SOVIET CIVIL DEFENSE CHIEF ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL101414 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Army General Aleksandr Terentyevich Altunin, the Soviet Union's chief of Civil Defense and deputy defense minister, has arrived in our country for a friendly and (?fraternal) visit. He was received by Division General Senen Casas, first vice minister of the FAR, and other high officials of the FAR.

TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH POLISH REPRESENTATIVE

FL091646 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] The trade protocol that will regulate trade between Cuba and the People's Republic of Poland for the next year was signed in Havana by Andres Yebra Garcia and Wladyslaw Gwiazda, both vice ministers in their countries' Ministries of Foreign Trade.

According to the protocol, Cuba will supply sugar, fresh citrus fruit, nickel, honey, and other products. Poland will export automobiles, textiles, spare parts, rolled steel, and other products to Cuba.

ANPP TO HOLD SESSION DURING 21-22 DECEMBER

FL101500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] The fifth regular session of the second legislature of the People's Government National Assembly [ANPP] will take place 21-22 December at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. On this occasion, in accordance with the agenda, four bills will be considered, along with accounting reports from the Communications Ministry and of the Havana City Provincial Assembly, among other important documents.

The bills to be considered are: the sole plan for economic and social development, the state's budget for 1984, the national symbols bill, and the bill on construction, reconstruction, conservation, and protection of roads.

During this session, the deputies will also become familiar with a report from the Council of Ministers on the completion of a measurement program for the 1983 economic and social objectives. The report was formulated since the resolution of the sixth plenary session of the Party Central Committee. The deputies will also study another program dealing with the National Assembly's international work.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO USSR -- The Council of State has designated Lionel Soto Prieto, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee and deputy to the National Assembly of the People's Government, as Cuba's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Dec 83 FL]

BARBADOS

GUYANESE OPPOSITION GROUP SEEKS SUPPORT

FL091810 Bridgetown CANA in English 1606 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec 9 (CANA) -- Two officials of a small nationalist movement in Guyana seeking the ouster of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) government have begun a visit to Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago seeking support from political leaders in demanding the holding of fair elections in Guyana. President of the Democratic Labour Movement (DLM), historian Paul Tennassee, told CANA Caribbean leaders have not been speaking out against "the dictatorship" in Guyana.

The organization, which claims membership of 2,000 persons, mostly farmers and other workers, has charged that elections in Guyana have been rigged for many years. Formerly known as the "Right to Work" Association, the movement has outlined the removal of the Burnham administration as one of its objectives. "We are asking the Caricom (Caribbean Community) countries to undertake a fact-finding mission to Guyana with respect to verifying why we don't have free and fair elections in Guyana," the movement's president said. He said his organization predicted there would be a civil war in Guyana because the economy had broken down, and alleged that the Burnham government had increased repression and expanded the military and paramilitary.

Tennassee and the DLM vice-president plan to meet government and opposition leaders here and in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as representatives of various media to get support for their demands. The two DLM members are due to leave here for Trinidad Sunday.

GRENADA

SCOON ADDRESSES NATION ON SECURITY, OTHER TOPICS

Warns Troublemakers

FL091533 Bridgetown CANA in English 1523 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Dec 9 (CANA) -- National security is the main concern of the new Grenada Government and the authorities have already put measures in place for the continued security of the country after U.S. combat troops pull out later this month, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon said last night. "...Provisions have already been made for the continued security of our entire country after the American combat troops leave our shores," he told Grenadians in a 27-minute radio address. "Let me warn those at home and abroad who think that they can sitr up trouble here that they will have a rude awakening. The hand of the law will fall heavily on them," the governor-general said.

American troops spearheaded the October 25 multinational intervention here to oust a Marxist military junta that had seized power in a bloody coup 6 days earlier in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was assassinated.

Scoon called on "friendly" countries, including those in the Caribbean and the Commonwealth, that are interested in giving Grenada a helping hand to come to the island "without further delay" to discuss with the authorities how best they can help. He said plans were already in train for a reorganization of the local police force and the training of officers. A batch of Grenadian policemen would go to Barbados next month for training at the Regional Police Training Centre, he indicated. The governor-general also said that arrangements were being made for senior officers to go to the United Kingdom for further training.

"All the police stations which are now closed will reopen once the necessary repairs now in progress are completed, and we shall have again a police presence in the various districts," Scoon told Grenadians.

Scoon said the U.S. - led "rescue mission" had given Grenadians "another chance" to build their country in the way they wanted and to practice Christian love and fellowship. He said: "Truly, there is a new breath of freedom in our land, the kind of freedom Grenadians want. But freedom can only be sustained by eternal vigilance and never again must we allow common humanity which we hold so dear to escape from our grasp." Sir Paul said.

Accountability for PRA Obligations

FLO91524 Bridgetown CANA in English 1458 GMT 9 Dec 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Dec 9 (CANA) -- There are no records in the Grenada treasury on the size of salaries of individual members of the disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA) nor does the government department have information on the number of ex-soldiers who paid income tax and national insurance contributions, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon said last night.

"The Ministry of Finance was merely required each month to provide a cheque in the sum of approximately 300,000 to 350,000 dollars (one E.C. dollar, 37 cents U.S.) for the payroll," Scoon told Grenadians in a 27-minute radio address. "It is my humble view that such an arrangement was open to corruption," he added.

The governor-general said he had also learned that a total of 3.6 million dollars was owed to the state by members of the deposed People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) and public officers who drew the amount as advances between 1979 and 1983. "We have recovered some of this money from public officers who had to leave our country, but others have fled without clearing their advances," the governor-general said. "The Treasury will make every effort to get those involved to account for these advances or pay them back to the treasury," Scoon told Grenadians.

These disclosures by the governor-general came two days after the three-week-old caretaker administration said it had inherited a "grave" liquidity problem from the left-wing Maurice Bishop administration which was overthrown in the bloody October 19 military coup.

The Advisory Council, installed following the U.S.-led military intervention six days later, blamed this on the maintenance by the PRG of capital and current expenditure at "unsustainable levels."

Scoon, citing the need for greater accountability of public funds, said: "The state of the treasury and of our finances is not really what we have been told." Scoon said while the former administration was expanding its diplomatic representation abroad and was placing "high priority" on foreign travel, the state could not pay a 5.1 million dollar debt owed to a number of regional and international organizations and local concerns for goods and services. "The interim administration must now clear up, for example, the massive overdrafts for diplomatic abroad," the governor-general told Grenadians.

Rushford's Appointment Revoked

FL100056 Bridgetown CANA in English 0011 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 9 (CANA) -- Grenada has revoked the appointment of 61-year-old British constitutional lawyer Anthony Rushford to the post of attorney general and legal advisor to the new government here, highly placed sources said tonight. Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, who appointed Rushford last month after his services were made available through the London-based Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, was himself responsible for revoking the appointment, the sources said. Scoon, the sources said, would shortly issue an order in the Government Gazette effecting the revocation.

Rushford, who arrived in the aftermath of the October 25 U.S.-led invasion of the island to topple a military junta which seized power, stormed out of Grenada Monday, telling journalists he had resigned because of differences between himself and the governor-general.

But Sir Paul said on Radio Barbados tonight there was no rift with Rushford. The governor general, who emerged in the October turmoil as the only remaining constitutional authority in Grenada, said that he had received no letter of resignation from the ex-attorney general. "We got on very friendly and I was always very receptive to his advice because I am not a lawyer myself. I just couldn't understand why Mr Rushford is going about saying that we couldn't see eye to eye," Sir Paul said on the state-run Radio Barbados tonight.

Replacement Sought

FL091303 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Two officials of the London-based Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation arrived in Grenada yesterday to discuss a replacement for the island's acting attorney general, who abruptly quit his post in a flurry of criticism against Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon. Grenadian Government sources said that two members of the British Commonwealth Fund would meet with the island-nation's 3-week-old Advisory Council to discuss a replacement for Mr Rushford. Rushford's salary was being paid by the Commonwealth Fund.

Mr Rushford abruptly quit Monday criticizing Governor Scoon and saying he was not working sufficiently to return constitutional government to the Eastern Caribbean nation of 110,000 people. Sources close to Mr Scoon yesterday attempted to downplay Mr Rushford's resignation, claiming he quit in a huff because he could not get answers to requests for Grenadian diplomatic passports for himself and his wife and permission to pratice law in Grenada.

Mr Rushford, who helped write Grenada's Constitution before the island's independence from Britain in 1984 [as heard], is a highly regarded legal expert who had privately been voicing his concerns about Mr Scoon's abilities before his resignation.

Overseas Students

FL091529 Bridgetown CANA in English 1508 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 9 (CANA) -- Some 30 Grenada nationals out of a total of 1984 pursuing studies in Cuba, up to yesterday, had indicated a desire to return home, and agents of the country's new government will today seek to make contact with more, Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon said last night. "It is hoped that by next week, all the students in Cuba will be contacted personally," he said in a broadcast to the nation.

There are also Grenadian students in East Germany and the Soviet Union. The governor-general made no specific reference to these. The students are studying a wide range of professional and technical skills in these countries under scholarships obtained by the left-wing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), ousted in the bloody military coup last October 19.

The interim administration installed following the U.S.-led military intervention six days later, said this week a unnamed "friendly" country was making contact with the students on its behalf.

SPECIAL ADVISER, INFORMATION OFFICER NAMED

FL091527 Bridgetown CANA in English 1502 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 9 (CANA) -- Veteran Grenadian broadcaster and journalist Leslie Seon has been appointed special advisor in the office of the chairman of Grenada's 3-week-old caretaker government, official sources said today. The sources said Seon's duties will include coordinating information on behalf of the Advisory Council. Seon was attached to the radio and TV operations of the state-owned Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) in Barbados before arriving here on Wednesday to take up the new post.

INTERIM GOVERNMENT RELEASES 10 DETAINEES

FL101900 Bridgetown CANA in English 1712 GMT 10 Dec 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 10 (CANA) -- Grenada's new interim government has released 10 detainees, including soldiers and security personnel who served under the leftist regime deposed in a bloody Army coup here seven weeks ago. Major John Prescod, spokesman for the Caribbean Peacekeeping Force stationed here since the takeover and subsequent U.S.-led military invasion to put down the coup, said today the men were freed from the Richomond Hill Prison yesterday and two others are to be released within the next 24 hours.

Major Prescod said those released include the former acting manager of the state-owned "Radio Free Grenada," Cecil Belfon, who was also a captain in the now disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA). Of the other detainees freed at least two -- Keith Ventour and Samuel Brathwaite -- were security officials under the government of executed Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The others released were PRA members Augustine Francis, Don Roberts, Stanford Blackette, Martin Marryshow, Douglas Telesford, Joseph Edmund, and Ronald Beggs. They were all picked up following the October 19 coup in which Prime Minister Bishop and several others were killed.

Nearly 50 persons, including former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, his wife Phyllis, two former ministers, Chris de Riggs and Selwyn Strachan, and the members of the 16-man short-lived military junta that ruled Grenada after the coup were detained during the invasion.

Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon said this week charges would shortly be brought against some of the detainees as appropriate. He said, too, he favoured an official enquiry into the October 19 coup when soldiers opened fire on civilians, killing many of them.

BRATHWAITE ON ROLE OF U.S. IN ISLAND'S FUTURE

FL101944 Bridgetown CANA in English 1823 GMT 10 Dec 83

[By Alister Hughes]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Dec 10 (CANA) -- The head of Grenada's interim administration today said he anticipates no attempt by Washington to influence future political developments here, and that elections planned for next year are expected to be held in a climate conducive to a free and fair poll. Nicholas Brathwaite, however, [said] the interim government would need logistic support from the United States with respect to intelligence and some patrolling of the country's coastal waters "during the next few months."

Brathwaite said he saw Washington's role as one of ensuring the island's security and providing economic assistance as the island recovers from last October's bloody strife, including a leftist Army coup and the execution of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and several of his colleagues. "I must emphasise," he said, "that, so far, we have no indication, direct or indirect, of any attempt by the Americans to influence the future political course of Grenada."

"Guyana's President Forbes Burnham, whose government condemned the October 25 U.S.-led invasion of Grenada to oust the coup leaders last month said Georgetown was concerned that Grenada's new leaders might become tools of American influence.

The interim government's chairman said there was no danger that the Grenada Government would be so influenced by gratitude to the Americans that it would have to resist handing over part of the island's sovereignty to Washington. "I don't think it might be necessary to resist," he said. "I thought the Americans had come in here at the invitation of the other Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS) countries, Jamaica and Barbados, and their intention was to help Grenadians."

"If at any time," he said, "indications appear that the Americans wish to influence the political process, then the Advisory Council, in diplomatic terms, will explain to Washington what the U.S. role should be."

"The whole process which has taken place in Grenada during the past few weeks was aimed at enabling Grenadians to elect the government of their choice," Brathwaite said. "Should it be necessary to outline to the Americans what their role should be in Grenada," he said, "it will be emphasised to them that Grenadians will not be able to make that choice if there is pressure or interference of any kind."

"I would expect that the political parties which will be contesting the elections will be allowed to do so in a climate which is conducive to free and fair elections," Brathwaite said, "and, at the moment, I do not have any great concern about American influence on the future development of the political process in Grenada."

In a reference to the role of Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon and his relationship with the Advisory Council, Brathwaite said Scoon would continue to play the traditional role "which is outlined for him by the Constitution." The chairman added that the Constitution provides for the appointment of the supervisor of elections by the governor-general at his discretion.

"As far as the authority of the Advisory Council is concerned," Brathwaite said, Scoon's proclamation relative to the council provides for the chairman to act in a manner similar to that of the prime minister."

"The Advisory Council does not make recommendations to the governor-general," he said. The Advisory Council takes decisions, and, as was clear arising from the recent meeting of the council, those decisions are made public by press releases." Brathwaite said: "The council functions, to a certain extent, as a cabinet would function, and its decisions are conveyed to Scoon merely for information."

"In this sense," the chairman said, "the council is an independent body, although it is called advisory."

The so-called Advisory Council was named November 9 to govern the country until elections are held. Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, the lone legal authority in Grenada after the military seized power in October, has reverted to his traditional constitutional role.

HAVANA REPORTS BRATHWAITE, OTHER APPOINTMENTS

PA100235 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Grenada's Governor Paul Scoon has announced the appointment of Nicholas Brathwaite as chief of the provisional government of this Caribbean island, which the United States has been occupying militarily since last October. The announcement coincided with the U.S. Defense Department's decision to reinforce U.S. military forces on Grenada by sending four patrol boats to guard the waters surrounding this tiny island.

Scoon said that Brathwaite's assistant will be Allan Kirton, secretary to Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga. A Bridgetown, Barbados, radio station reported that other members of the Grenadian Government council will be Randolph Mark and William Demas, secretary general of the Caribbean Development Bank, as an economic adviser.

The U.S. daily THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reported that U.S. troops continue raids and arrests while they maintain U.S. military occupation of the island. The newspaper adds that the U.S. Armed Forces have created an interrogation center where individuals suspected of sympathizing with Grenadian progressive forces are kept under arrest, and that hundreds of political prisoners are being held in concentration camps.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT AGREES TO TALK WITH GRENADIANS

FL091740 Bridgetwon CANA in English 1640 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec 9 (CANA) -- The Trinidad and Tobago Government has agreed to hold talks with Grenada's interim administration "on any assistance this country may wish to give" to the Spice Island, a statement from the Ministry of Information said here. The decision followed "an approach" the Grenada governor-general, Sir Paul Scoon, made to Trinidad and Tobago President Ellis Clarke, the statement said. Sir Paul asked "if the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago would hold talks with the interim administration of Grenada," the Information Ministry stated.

The discussions will be held at "a date convenient to both parties." No venue was mentioned.

BOLIVIA

PAZ ZAMORA TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AS ACTING PRESIDENT

PY092258 Paris AFP in Spanish 1645 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Excerpts] La Paz, 9 Dec (AFP) -- Bolivian Acting President Jaime Paz Zamora will use the 4 days as acting president of the country to demonstrate efficiency and vitality for running the country during the absence of Hernan Siles Zuazo, who is attending the Argentine presidential inauguration, a regime Paz Zamora has recently described as inept.

This position of the acting president is no longer being treated as a routine procedure, since a harsh struggle has been going on for 11 months between the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

As soon as he became acting president, Paz Zamora successfully solved the hunger strike of the oil workers, who were asking for concrete measures to strengthen the economy of the state petroleum enterprise.

The vice president, who was acting president during Siles Zuazo's trip to the United Nations, France, and Venezuela, promised to resolve as many social and economic problems as possible and to defend the democratic regime. He added: We are all committed to the preservation of democracy.

The vice president will become acting president again next week when Siles Zuazo travels travels to Santa Marta, Colombia, to attend the meeting of presidents of the Andean Pact countries.

VENEZUELA

HERRERA ON AIR FORCE MODERNIZATION, F-16's

PA112009 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0249 GMT 11 Dec 83

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Caracas, 10 Dec (EFE) -- The deployment of F-16 fighter bombers moves Venezuela into the technological vanguard among its sister countries in Latin America," President Luis Herrera Campins said today on commemorating the 63d anniversary of the founding of the Venezuelan Air Force.

Herrera Campins justified the purchase of the modern aircraft, declaring that the Air Force was being modernized "because the growth of our country demands it: We are duty-bound to protect our country, whose vast basic resources have made possible the expansion of our basic heavy industry and complementary industries."

He said, however, that Venezuela "pursues a foreign policy of cooperation, solidarity, and peace in the community of nations and does not advocate arms buildups, "which consume and tie up millions in currency -- monies that could be used for peacful purposes rather than for destructive weapons."

He later insisted that it was necessary to modernize the Air Force "to meet defense and security demands, which have also led us to implement an adquate defense system for the first time."

"Our Air Force is aware of the expenses involved in these purchases, and I am sure that it will know how to maintain these aircraft properly and prolong thier operation for many years," President Herrera added.